

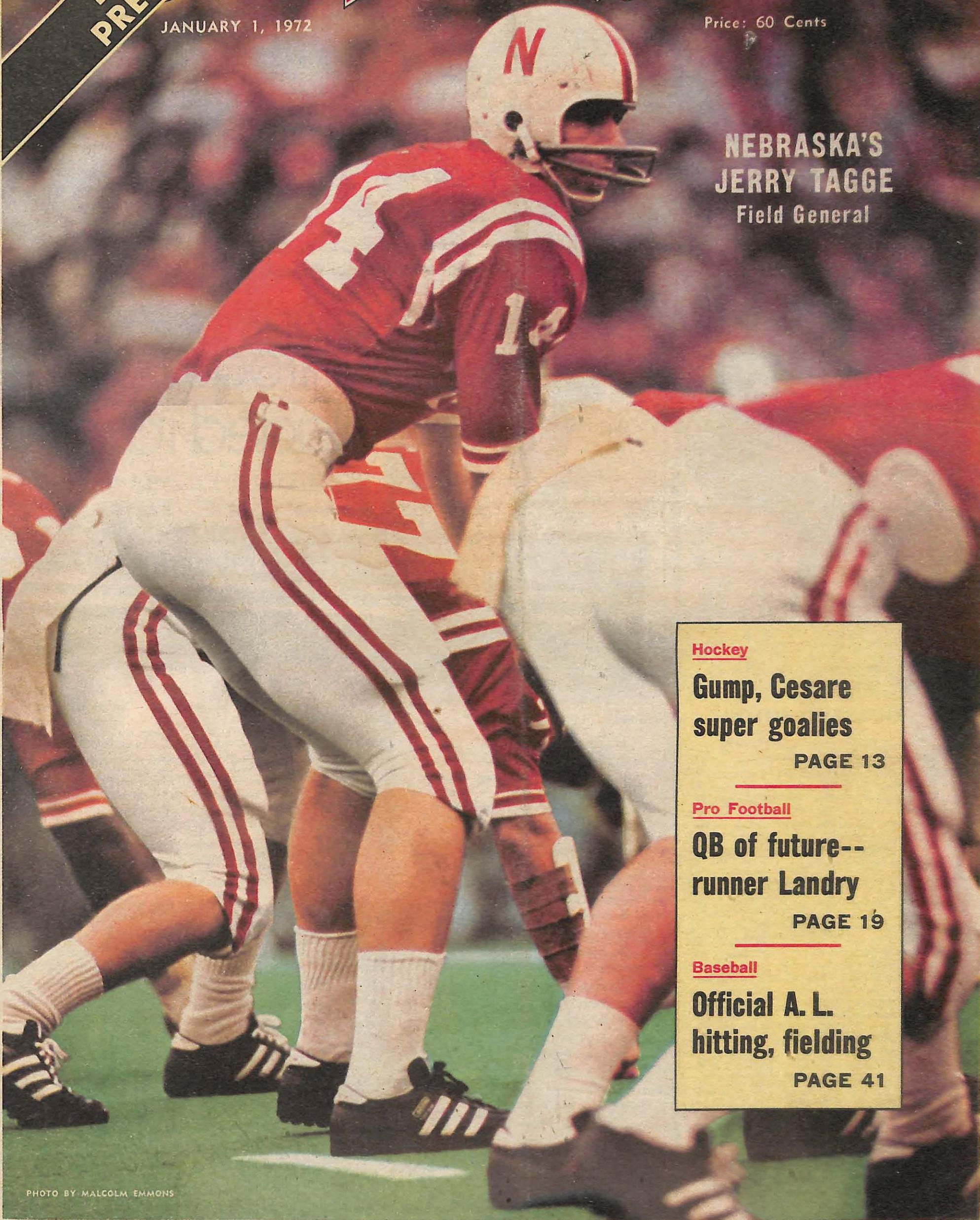
**BOWL
PREVIEW**

Sporting News

JANUARY 1, 1972

Price: 60 Cents

**NEBRASKA'S
JERRY TAGGE**
Field General



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super goalies**

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Joe Falls



The Expert Takes the Stand

DETROIT, Mich.—Q: Did you have a good holiday?

A: Just perfect. I saw the four pro playoff games and never left the fireside.

Q: Still boosting TV, eh?

A: You betcha . . . anytime they can take me from Minneapolis to Kansas City to Cleveland to the West Coast and I don't have to get out of the black easy chair, I'm for it.

Q: The black easy chair? I thought you said you bought that for your wife?

A: That was last Christmas.

Q: How do you think the bowl games are going to come out?

A: It doesn't make any difference. The football polls are all messed up. The UPI held its last poll at the end of the regular season but the AP is going to have another ballot after New Year's Day. So, we could have two national champions.

Q: You don't like the football polls?

A: Just the opposite. I think they're great—from a news-

paper's standpoint. They create controversy. But to determine which team is really No. 1, no way, baby.

Q: What about the pros? Do you get a ballot for the MVP in the National Football League?

A: Don't know that I do. But I wonder if they're finally going to get smart and stop passing it around like the Heisman Trophy—giving it to a quarterback or running back every year.

Q: Who would you like to see get it?

A: One of two players—Carl Eller or Alan Page of the Vikings.

Q: But they're defensive players.

A: That's the point. Nobody ever picks defensive players. They don't have statistics the way offensive players do. But show me two better players in the whole pro league and I'll buy you a New Year's toddy.

Q: What about your Hall of Fame ballot? Did you fill it out?

A: Yep. I put Sandy Koufax on it and I guess everybody else

(Continued on Page 6, Column 4)

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Who's No. 1? Huskers, Tide Fight It Out

By JOHN CRITTENDEN

MIAMI, Fla. — The exuberance over college football being what it is, there seems to be a Game of the Decade about every other month. But there's an easy way to distinguish the 1972 Orange Bowl from all those other battles of giants. This is the first time since 1956 that perfect-record major college teams have been matched in a post-season game.

That makes it the biggest college game in 16 years, the first time the top two teams in the country, both undefeated and untied, have been paired up in January since Bud Wilkinson's Oklahomans defeated Maryland, coached by the late Jim Tatum, 20-6, in the 1956 Orange Bowl.

The colleges don't have a Super Bowl at the end of every season, but when they do, it's an event.

Nebraska, defending national champion, comes back to the bowl where it won its title at the end of the 1970 season, to put its No. 1 national ranking on the line against an Alabama team which ran off 11 straight victories against some of the toughest foes in college football.

The statistics on the way Alabama and Nebraska dominated their opposition are so lopsided that they seem absurd. Nebraska for instance, gained twice as many yards rushing as its opponents, but Alabama

Crittenden Chooses

Nebraska 24

Alabama 20

outrushed its opposition nearly three yards to one.

Nebraska scored a remarkable 39.1 points per game, while Alabama averaged 32.9 in each performance. Both teams are nationally ranked in total offense, total defense and scoring, with such small statistical differences that they are barely worth mentioning.

The one apparent edge—Nebraska's better balance in the passing figures—is offset by the fact that Alabama quarterback Terry Davis completed nine of 11 throws in his team's 31-7 rout against previously undefeated Auburn in the last game of the season.

Musso Top Rusher

The game's big names, at least in the pre-fight buildup, are clearly Alabama's Johnny Musso—a near unanimous All-America, with 1,088 yards rushing and 16 touchdowns—and Jerry Tagge of Nebraska, a calm and versatile destroyer of a quarterback who can run, pass and lead. Tagge had a sub-standard passing year—he completed only 59.8 percent of his throws. As a junior, he completed 61 percent.

Completing 12 passes, running for 65 yards against the nation's No. 1

rushing defense and steering the team on a 14-play, 65-yard drive for the winning touchdown, Tagge was voted the most valuable back in last year's Orange Bowl, where the Cornhuskers won the national championship on a 17-12 victory over Louisiana State.

One of the most talked-about facets of Alabama vs. Nebraska will be the rematch between the coaches, Paul Bryant, the man of legend, and Bob Devaney, who has the best won-lost percentage in college football.

Devaney Was 'Outcoached'

In a match which turned into a playoff for the collegiate championship, after other top teams had fallen earlier in the day, Alabama flattened Nebraska, 39-28, in the 1966 Orange Bowl.

"I was outcoached in that game—psychologically and in every other way," Devaney has reflected since, "even in onside kicks and tackle-eligible passes."

The following season, Alabama and Nebraska got together again—this time in the Sugar Bowl—and Bryant won, 34-7. A couple of seasons later, Bryant telephoned Devaney and suggested they meet at the Liberty Bowl.

"That sounds great," Devaney told Bryant. "The next day," chuckled Devaney, "we signed to go to the Sun Bowl."

Since Nebraska chose to come to Miami, knowing Alabama was going to be the opponent, Devaney seems sure that he has accumulated enough muscle to settle things with his nemesis.

Until last year, when Nebraska dominated LSU, the Cornhuskers had a background of failure in the major bowls. In addition to the two losses to Alabama, Nebraska also lost to Arkansas in the 1965 Cotton Bowl. The team's only recent major bowl victory before last year was a 13-7 triumph over Auburn in the 1964 Orange Bowl.

Huskers Belong in NFL

Devaney went home from his 1966 loss to Alabama vowing to get quicker players, and it didn't work. So now he has a club which is both big and fast. His troops are so efficient that some of Devaney's Big Eight Conference opponents have suggested that the Cornhuskers should be playing on a higher level, say the National Football League.

Some major changes have taken place at Alabama, too, since the first Bryant-DeVaney confrontations. Alabama's record for the three years previous to 1971 was, for Bryant, quite ordinary—28-15-2. A 35-10 embarrassment by Missouri in the 1968 Gator Bowl sent Bryant looking for bigger players. Last August he de-



Jeff Kinney . . . Spearhead of Nebraska's Ground Attack.

cided to go with the wishbone offense.

"There were two reasons why football dipped at Alabama and both of them were me," said Bryant. "First, I failed in the area of player selection and second, I didn't do the coaching job necessary to give us a winning team. It was that simple."

Be that as it may, Alabama is

back, but with a different look. The team which had passers like Joe Namath, Steve Sloan and Scott Hunter in the 1960s now operates with a game plan which seldom includes a pass. Davis averaged six passes per game during the regular season.

But the Crimson Tide comes to the Orange Bowl with six backs averaging more than five yards per carry.

"And we're stronger at every position on defense than we were a year ago," said Bryant.

Battle for Ball Control

It could be a classic match of ball control. Alabama held the ball for nearly 42 of 60 minutes against Auburn. Nebraska likes to slash away, too, as it did so efficiently in its 35-31 victory over Oklahoma, in which Jeff Kinney ripped out 174 yards and four touchdowns.

Fleet Johnny Rodgers, who averaged 30 yards per kickoff return and 16.6 on punt returns and caught 11 touchdowns as well, gives Nebraska a break-it-open potential which Alabama will find hard to match.

"Nebraska is not strictly a power football team," said Oklahoma Coach Chuck Fairbanks, who should be a ranking expert on the Cornhuskers. "They have exceptional speed, tremendous finesse and deception and an outstanding passing attack. They control the ball as well passing as they do running."

Obviously the Nebraska defense

will focus on Musso, who carried the ball 33 times for 167 yards against Auburn. Nebraska held Oklahoma speedball Greg Pruitt, who had averaged 158 yards per game, to 53 yards on 10 carries. But Oklahoma ran up 467 yards for the day, which certainly was enough to give Alabama some clues.

Two Shots at Wishbone

Devaney says Nebraska has seen the wishbone offense only twice in two years—against Oklahoma. It produced a lot of points both times. Nebraska defeated Oklahoma, 28-21, in 1969.

"There are a lot of people who say you can't stop the wishbone," said Devaney. "But if you're a coach, you can't go along with that. You have to stop it."

Tagge finished seventh in the Heisman Trophy voting, Musso fourth, but Devaney predicts his quarterback will be drafted by the pros ahead of Pat Sullivan, Auburn's Heisman winner.

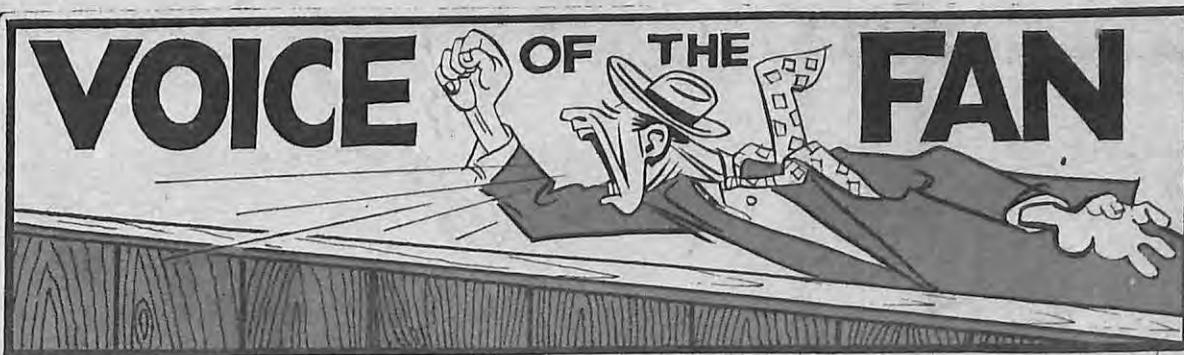
"At Nebraska, our offense isn't built around one guy," Tagge declared. "We're a balanced team, with no special pressure on one guy, and I like it that way."

The game is a sellout, and has been for a month.

The Orange Bowl has become so popular that it's not even blacked out locally, which puts the college super bowl in a class by itself.



Johnny Musso Takes to the Air in Diving for Extra Alabama Yardage.



THE BOLD ONES

One of the most bold and refreshing approaches to baseball's player development, since Branch Rickey introduced the farm system, is Ewing Kauffman's Baseball Academy. And now congratulations are in order to Tal Smith of the Astros for proposing another completely unique approach for upgrading the instruction of today's young players.

Baseball would certainly be wise in adopting Smith's idea, which provides for intensive individual and group instruction.

Having spent considerable time in an instructional capacity, I find it appalling that some baseball people will spend tremendous amounts of money to scout and sign players, then send them to rookie leagues. Here they play about 35 at-home games, 35 away and, considering traveling time, etc., receive the equivalent of about one hour of individual instruction for the entire summer.

A progressive step such as Smith's, which, through personalized instruction, would improve the quality of play, is definitely in order to insure the continued growth and popularity of baseball.

It is not necessary for a major league club to have 25 minor league teams to provide a steady flow of talent. So let's get away from the haphazard practice followed in most quarters and adopt, as well as improve upon, innovations such as Kauffman's and proposals like Smith's to enhance the development of tomorrow's major league ball players.

CHARLIE METRO
Scout, Detroit Tigers
Golden, Colo.

SLAP IN THE FACE

I was astonished to see Bobby Grich named the Minor League Player of the Year, though I don't mean to doubt his tremendous ability and his potential as a major league star.

But one has to think how this selection represents a slap in the face to Denver's Richie Scheinblum and the entire American Association. Here's a ballplayer who hits above .400 for much of the season, finishes with a .388 average (about 50 points higher than Grich), drives in more than 100 runs, compiles an impressive slugging percentage and, though no Willie Mays, does a respectable job in the field.

MIKE REEDER
Pawtucket, R. I.

insiders say

Mel Daniels, Indiana Pacers' center, sympathizing with Kentucky's Artis Gilmore over the abundance of goaltending calls against the Colonels' rookie: "The officials in this league just haven't seen a player block a shot that high in the air. As soon as they realize those blocked shots are for real, watch out."

Tom Brock, one-time coach at Kings College, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and the University of Omaha: "A good coach is a coach who can be chased down the street by irate alumni and make it look as if he's leading a parade."

CLEAR THE WAY

Members of the BBWAA now are voting on the selection of players to the Hall of Fame.

As you recall, last year they failed to elect anyone. Let's hope they do not repeat the performance.

For the first time, Sandy Koufax is eligible and appears to be a shoo-in. But hopefully, the writers also will concentrate on those players who received the most votes last year—Berra, Wynn, Kiner, Hodges, Slaughter, Mize, Reese, Marion, Schoendienst and Reynolds. After all, if one's favorite is further down the list, the only hope for his election is to clear those ahead of him.

ALDO J. ROVERO
East Hartford, Conn.

TRIPLE OPTIONS

The contention in your We Believe of December 11 that football's conversions lack excitement is entirely correct. Therefore, I would propose a kick option of two points for conversions set up at the 25-yard line and three points for kicks after TDs from the 45. The converting team would have to designate.

Also, for those who advocate an added point for the pass or run, allow the converting team the additional choice of three points from the 25 and five points from the 45.

By employing such options, excitement would be created for a phase of the game that is on the ho-hum side. This also allows a team to gamble in an effort to close the gap and keep the game in hand.

E. W. STAUDENMAYER
Richmond, Va.

(Continued on Page 6, Column 4)

Leonard Koppett



A Glance Backward . . . and Forward

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Another year is upon us, this one bearing the number 1972, and it is natural for thoughts to roam backward and forward (which is why the month is called January, remember? After the Roman god Janus, who faced in both directions).

But the tendency to reminisce on the one hand and make forecasts on the other, indulged in by nearly everyone around New Year's, is a daily way of life for us sports buffs. We don't limit that activity to the year-end period. We indulge in it all the time.

In fact, that's as good an explanation of fan interest as you can find: Sports offers the maximum opportunity to recall and predict definite events in which interest can be shared.

In this philosophical vein—and you all realize philosophy is what a newspaperman writes when he hasn't got a real story—I shall engage in the traditional practice with one little twist. I will dwell on the surprising things of the past, and the not-surprising things of the future, instead of the other way around.

For instance, I was surprised—and I continue to be surprised, in retrospect—at how the New York Mets captured people's imagination in 1962. Ten years ago this month, we in New York knew that Casey Stengel would be their manager and that they would train in St. Petersburg.

We looked forward with varying expectations to the new team. Some thought it would be the worst ever, some thought it would be not so bad, but no one at all thought it would generate the kind of kooky cultural response it did.

Ten years later, it is hard to realize how completely the Mets of 1962 are gone, a part of history with virtually no substantive connection to the present team. Today's Mets, in a modern stadium easily accessible to the suburbs, expected to be pennant contenders each year, commanding a huge and loyal following, making money and living the big league life, under the low-key management of Donald Grant, Jim Thomson, Bob Scheffing and Gil Hodges, live in an entirely different dimension.

The days in the decaying Polo Grounds, with Stengel's limitless capacity for stirring things up with a team whose ineptness was not merely taken for granted but loved, belong to a period as dead as the age of reptiles when dinosaurs roamed a steaming earth.

'62 Met Season Something to Savor

You'll have to be tolerant about the last sentence, because newspapermen with no real story often collapse into poetic imagery as well as philosophy. But my thought is prosaic enough: The amazement the Amazing Mets generated in 1962 seems to me even more amazing as I look back on it.

In 1952, the amazing incident that grows more amazing every time I conjure it up in my mind's eye happened in the seventh inning of the seventh game of the World Series at Ebbets Field. It was a big thing, in those days, that the Dodgers never had beaten the Yankees in a World Series, and it was generally accepted that position-by-position the 1952 Dodgers had bigger names.

Now it all came down to a two-out, bases-loaded situation, with the Yankees leading, 4-2. Bob Kuzava just had relieved Vic Raschi and had made Duke Snider pop up for the second out. Now Stengel let him stay and face the righthanded Jackie Robinson.

Robinson hit his famous popup, which Joe Collins, who just had been put on first base as a defensive replacement for Johnny Mize, lost sight of. It was Billy Martin who came racing in from fairly deep second, to a point near the mound, for an awkward-looking, down-reaching catch which ended the inning—and, as it turned out, decided the Series.

Whenever I visualize that improvised catch on what we now might call a busted play, I feel more and more surprised how much baseball history and attitudes hinged on that fluke occurrence. Among other things, a Charlie Dressen whose team had beaten the Yankees in 1952 might never have been dropped after losing to them again in 1953, and Walter Alston might never have received his chance. For another, Stengel's unique and most distinguished record, five straight world championships, wouldn't exist.

'42 Cards Achieved the Impossible

My 1942 eye-opening recollection also deals with the World Series. Here were the New York Yankees, automatic winners of every Series they'd been in since 1927—eight of them—being challenged by the brash young Cardinals, who really had no right beating out Leo Durocher's Dodgers in the first place.

The Yankees were winning the first game, 7-0, behind Red Ruffing in the ninth inning. The Cardinals scored four runs in the ninth, but so what? So what was that they then won four games in a row, and to my 18-year-old imagination such a turnaround seemed incomprehensible. It still does!

And in the 1932 Series, about which I know only through reading, my sense of amazement continues to dwell on the fabled home run: If Babe Ruth really did point at the bleachers before hitting it, with the count two strikes, how come Charley Root didn't knock him down with the next pitch? All I have ever heard from oldtimers, about how tough they were, contradicts the idea that one of those tough old pitchers would permit such a challenge, even by the Babe.

So every time I think of it, I continue to be astounded, either at the event itself (if it happened that way) or at the persistence of the myth (if it didn't).

So much for backward glances. Looking ahead, here are some things that would not surprise me in 1972:

If the American Basketball Association, failing to get merger permission from Congress, broke up, with the stronger survivors joining the National Basketball Association.

If the Yankees announced that they, like the football Giants, eventually will abandon Yankee Stadium for New Jersey.

If a major league baseball team moves to Washington in 1973.

If the Texas Rangers prove less of a financial success in Arlington than any previously moved (as distinct from expansion) franchise. (Well, maybe not as bad as the A's did in Oakland after leaving Kansas City.)

If, in the event of strong antitrust rulings from the Supreme Court and/or Congress, sports manage to survive after all.

Mind you, I don't predict these things. I just say they wouldn't surprise me.

Puck chasers take note: the best stuff on ice is

the
good
stuff.



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Jack Mildren (Left) and Pat Sullivan . . . Rival QBs in Sugar Bowl Collision of Running Game vs. Air Might.

Can Auburn Corral Mighty Sooners' Rush?

By PETER FINNEY

NEW ORLEANS, La. — Although, in reality, you could say the Sugar Bowl is the Runnerup Bowl, the mixing of those Oklahoma and Auburn offenses may produce more fireworks than all of the other post-season attractions thrown together.

On paper, you have to figure the sellout crowd of 83,000 in Tulane Stadium will come away with tennis necks after watching the Sooners run and the Tigers pass up and down the Poly-Turf carpet.

Chuck Fairbanks' Okies finished the season as the nation's No. 1 team in total offense—566 yards per game and 66 TDs—and No. 1 in rushing, 472 yards a game.

Meanwhile, Shug Jordan's Tigers, with the incomparable pitch-and-catch combo of Heisman Trophy winner Pat Sullivan and wide receiver Terry Beasley, finished No. 4 in passing with 277 yards a game and 24 touchdowns by passing.

With Oklahoma averaging 44 points and Auburn 31, it means the New Year's Day spectators, once the ball starts moving, will quickly forget November defeats that ruined perfect seasons for both clubs.

Sooners Fought Valiantly

The Sooners lost a 35-31 classic to Nebraska for the Big Eight title and the top spot in the polls when they ran out of time in Norman. Twice they came back from 11-point deficits on the brilliant play of quarterback Jack Mildren.

With Nebraska taking away the outside threat of the Sooner wishbone, Mildren kept the ball and ran with it 31 times and, with seven minutes left, had Oklahoma ahead, 31-28, after a 69-yard march through the best defense in college football.

But the Cornhuskers came right back and tacked up the winning TD with 1:38 remaining. A desperation pass from Mildren to Jon Harrison (who caught two scoring passes earlier) missed by several yards on the final series.

Two days after the Sooner wishbone lanced the Nebraska defense for a stunning 467 yards in losing,

Auburn's defense was unable to handle a more powerful, though not as quick, Alabama wishbone, losing the SEC title to its arch-rival, 31-7.

On that melancholy afternoon for Tiger fanatics, Sullivan, the newly-crowned Mr. Heisman, watched from the sidelines for three quarters as 'Bama controlled the football. When he did manage to get in, he threw two interceptions that set up 'Bama scores.

"They just whipped us," said Sullivan after the game. "That's all I can say. I'll be all right tomorrow."

Which could be trouble for an Oklahoma defense that has not seen a passer of Sullivan's caliber, or a catcher like Beasley, all season.

Pat's Glittering Record

In his three years of varsity football at Auburn, the 6-foot, 190-pounder who can finesse the football short or long, was responsible for 71 touchdowns, an NCAA record. In his Heisman Trophy season, Pat accounted for 209 yards of total offense in each game, completed 57 percent of his passes, and threw for 20 TDs in taking Auburn to a 9-1 record.

Beasley, 5-11, 186 and with a clocking of 6.1 for 60 yards, set an SEC record for touchdowns caught (29) and yardage (2,507).

Embarrassed by its showing against 'Bama, and possibly by the oddsmakers, who installed Oklahoma a 10-point favorite, Auburn should enjoy the psychological edge on January 1. The fact that the Tigers will be making their first trip to the Sugar Bowl shouldn't hurt either.

When Sullivan is right—which is often—Auburn's attack can be swift and brutal. One reason is that Pat has more targets than Beasley.

Beasley, with 55 catches for 12 TDs this season, didn't finish that far ahead of 6-1 Dick Schmaltz, who had 44 grabs, seven for scores.

With the Tennessee defense keying on Beasley, it was Schmaltz who made three key catches on a do-or-die scoring drive in an early 10-9 win over Tennessee.

Said Schmaltz: "When you're six points behind with six minutes to play and there's 11 fired-up defensive men and 86 yards between you and the goal line, you don't need a quarterback who comes in the huddle, stammers and looks around for help."

"You want one who has confidence, confidence in himself and in everyone else, a quarterback like Pat Sullivan. Against Tennessee, Pat came in the huddle, pointed toward the Tennessee goal and said, 'We're going that way and we're going to win!'

In a key victory over Georgia, in Athens, the Bulldogs crept to within a point, 21-20, after Auburn had jumped off to a 14-0 lead. On the first play following the kickoff, Sullivan hit Beasley on a 70-yard scoring play and the Plainsmen were on their way to a 35-20 victory.

So you can ask the question: Can

Finney's Forecast

Oklahoma 41

Auburn 28

the Sooners slow down Sullivan's air show?

But you also can turn it around: Can Auburn's defense, which could not contain Alabama's wishbone, corral the likes of Mildren and Greg Pruitt, the man Nebraska put the blanket on?

If Sullivan is a finesse passer, the Sooners' wishbone is a finesse attack that struck this fall with lightning speed.

Seldom do the big, mobile Sooner linemen set their defensive counterparts on their backs. Instead, they block aggressively at the point of attack and move quickly to seal off pursuit.

Larry Lacewell, Oklahoma's defensive coach, whose players had to scrimmage against the Sooner wishbone in the spring, says: "It's really not a fair offense because it eliminates some of the basic things that always have made for good defense—like chasing the ball. It can make good football players look like bad

football players when they haven't been blocked."

Given Mildren's keen decision-making and execution, plus the blazing speed of Pruitt, halfback Roy Bell and fullback Leon Crosswhite, the Sooners eventually get someone isolated behind the pursuit and it's six points.

Both Pruitt and Mildren ran for over 1,000 yards, Pruitt finishing with an awesome 9.4 average in 178 carries. In last season's Bluebonnet Bowl, Pruitt scored on gallops of 58 and 25 yards in a 24-24 tie with Alabama.

Shock to Oldtimers

He staggered Oklahoma oldtimers—including Bud Wilkinson—by running for more yards in six games than such Sooner immortals as Billy Vessels, Tommy McDonald, Leon Heath and Clendon Thomas rushed for in the same number of contests.

"This team not only broke the offensive record of my 1956 club," said Wilkinson, "they smashed it to pieces." The '56 Sooners rushed for a record of 3,910, the '71 Sooners for 5,196.

"When I look back to my days at Minnesota, and think that we needed four blockers at the point of attack on off-tackle play . . . now today, you run off-tackle with the wishbone and those same four people are downfield blocking."

So smashing was the Sooner ground game that it crushed Southern Cal, Texas and Colorado on successive Saturdays with little help from the forward pass. In these three key games against solid foes, Pruitt raced for 216, 206 and 190 yards, Mildren for 111 against Texas and 102 against Southern Cal.

Fairbanks installed the wishbone before the 1970 game with Texas and it turned out to be a 41-9 disaster. But Oklahoma stuck with it and as Mildren, who was somewhat anti-wishbone at first, gained confidence and poise, the Sooners began to roll.

This season, after Oklahoma routed Texas, 48-27, Darrell Royal said he had never seen a more destructive running game.

At the heart of it is Mildren, the high school sensation from Abilene who had college scouts flocking to his doorstep after passing for more than 2,000 yards and 20 touchdowns in his senior season.

What does it take to be a wishbone QB? Chuck Fairbanks says: "Besides the obvious physical qualities—quick hands, quick feet, good speed, there is the mental composure to make decisions after the ball is snapped. These are decisions that have to be made instantly, with bodies moving around everywhere, and that takes a special breed of cat. Running the wishbone is like a guy milking a cow. He can't be worried about tripping over a bucket."

Lightweight Auburn Line

Mildren hasn't been tripped up too many times and the battle of wits between him and Sullivan—two different kinds of quarterbacks—should be something to behold.

In a game figured to be dominated by offense, what of the defenses?

Well, Auburn's has changed lately; that is, Shug Jordan, who used to go for the 240-pound linemen, now has one of the lightest lines in the South, headed by 210-pound tackle Tommy Yearout.

Maybe the Tigers will benefit from the 'Bama game and make some adjustments in their defense against the wishbone.

As for Oklahoma, the Sooners placed as many defensive people on the all-Big Eight team as did Nebraska—four. The ringleader here is 237-pound end Ray Hamilton, who had a good day against the Cornhuskers.

But, unless Sullivan throws interceptions, as he did against 'Bama, and unless the Sooners fumble a lot—which they've done on occasions (three times against Nebraska)—the offense will dominate.

Dooleys Are At It Again —This Time in Gator Bowl

By BOB PRICE

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — There'll be no Hatfield-McCoy feud in Jacksonville December 31, but the Dooleys will be after one another.

Georgia's Vince Dooley and his younger brother, Bill, of North Carolina, will be matching grid wits in the 27th annual Gator Bowl game, which should pack 70,000 into the stadium.

"My brother and I have been fighting all our lives," said Bill. "We may as well do it again in the Gator Bowl." While Bill was joking, his youngsters and Vince's still can't figure why dad is trying to outdo uncle.

This won't be the first time the Dooleys have coached against each other, but chances are there'll be a change from the last meeting when Mississippi State's Bill defeated Auburn's Vince, 13-10, in the Sugar Bowl. Both were still assistants at the time.

The change? On that 1964 occasion, the two rode to the game in the same car, then went to different dressing rooms. Vince said, "I don't think we'll be riding to the Gator Bowl together."

The Dooleys also have been on the same bench many a time. When Vince, then virtually an unknown,

Price's Pickings

Georgia 35

North Carolina 27

started picking his Georgia staff, every time he thought of an offensive line coach, he thought of Bill. And Bill got the job.

In Bill's five years at North Carolina, he has compiled a 26-25 record, topped by this fall's 9-2 team. The baby Dooley progressed through seasons of 2-8, 3-7, 5-5 and 8-4 to the 1971 Atlantic Coast Conference title.

Big brother Vince's eight-year Bulldog mark is 58-24-4 with two Southeastern Conference crowns. His lone defeat this year was to his old school, Auburn.

The 1971 season has been one of tragedy as well as happiness for the Tar Heels, who scored a 35-0 victory over Air Force in the 1963 Gator Bowl game.

Billy Arnold, a sophomore offensive guard, was stricken with heat prostration the week before the season started and died less than a month later in a Chapel Hill hos-



Bill Dooley

pital. The death began a campus protest against Bill Dooley's allegedly "overstrenuous" practice sessions.

But the team rallied behind its coach and did well. The only real two low spots were a 37-29 loss to Tulane and a 36-35 win over William and Mary, a 21-point underdog.

The Tar Heels enjoyed their first ever ACC championship and their best mark since 1963.

North Carolina's leader is quarterback Paul Miller, a 6-1, 180-pounder who gained 1,047 yards in total offense while completing 75 of 146 passes and nine touchdown tosses.

Tar Heels Like to Run

However, the Tar Heels are primarily a running team, with Lewis Jolley the main cog. The six-footer from Forest City, N. C., stepped into the tailback slot when preseason All-America choice Ike Oglesby was injured. Jolley finished with 712 yards in 117 carries.

Oglesby, stricken with severe leg cramps, has seen little action since a 38-7 victory over North Carolina State and is doubtful for the Gator Bowl.

Geoff Hamlin is the other running back, and this 6-1, 205-pound Canadian has gained 594 yards.

Jolley and Hamlin and the other Tar Heel runners are quick to credit

Strength and speed is defensive coach Erskine Russell's motto and he gets it from Mixon Robins, twice national Lineman of the Week this season, Milton Brucke, Paul McPipkin, Dennis Watson, Chuck Heard, Phil Sullivan, Chip Wilson and Steve Kitchens.

As his running and passing might indicate, Johnson is the scoring leader for Georgia with 13 touchdowns for 78 points. Placekicking specialist Ken Braswell is the No. 2 scorer with seven of 16 in field goal attempts and 38 of 44 PAT efforts good for 59 points.

Georgia's defense has yielded but 112 points to rank seventh in the nation.

Another wrinkle in Georgia's success is punt return specialist Buzy Rosenberg, who has picked up 433 yards on 33 returns and two touchdowns.

It's definitely a family affair in the Gator Bowl between the Dooleys—Vince and Bill—but there'll be Tar Heels and Bulldogs who'll be horning in on the gridiron glory.



Vince Dooley . . . A Family Showdown Shaping Up.



(Continued From Page 4)

DEFENSIVE TREND

I read with interest Harvey Cooper's letter (December 18 issue) concerning Canadian football. While it is true the scores are higher in the National Football League, there is a definite trend toward defense that has been prevalent in the NFL for a few years.

Just yesterday I watched the Minnesota Vikings beat Detroit, 29-10, with as tenacious a defense as one could assemble. The success of the Washington Redskins this year has been due largely to their formidable defensive unit.

The NFL may score more points than the CFL, but to characterize the NFL as "a basketball show with teams running up the score" is a mistake.

WILLIAM MARSHALL

Emory, Va.

MISSING ALL-AMERICAS

With the arrival of the December 18 issue which carried your 1971 All-America team, I looked first at your offensive team to see if Johnny Rodgers was there. No, he wasn't. Dick Ruppert? No. Jerry Tagge? No. Jeff Kinney? No. I thought, well then, Larry Jacobson, Willie Harper and Rich Glover would surely be on the defensive team. By golly, none of them either. Not a member of the No. 1 team in the nation.

Then I examined the lists more closely. Not even the great Oklahoma team, with the likes of Mendenhall, Pruitt and Brahaney, had a representative. How about Alabama? What do you know? Not a player,

not even the great Johnny Musso. In other words, not one player from the top three teams in the country was good enough to make your team.

It was also laughable that only one player from the Big Eight Conference made the first team. The Big Eight is the conference considered by most experts to be the toughest in the nation. You selected Herb Orvis of Colorado at defensive end, although he played defensive tackle and missed about half the games because of an injury.

I wish I could select a team from Nebraska, Oklahoma and Alabama and play your team in "THE SPORTING NEWS BOWL."

RONALD K. SAMUELSON
Pender, Neb.

TACKLE THEM RIGHT

Hats off to Dick Young for his suggestion in the December 4 issue proposing fines for football players who use the method of "block tackling."

How many times have you seen a ballcarrier about to be brought down escape for extra yardage because the defender disregarded the fundamentals?

It seems the defensive back is the main culprit in this regard. He dearly loves to blindside a receiver, but has second thoughts about meeting a charging running back. Granted, bringing down a runner that outweighs you by some 50 pounds has its hazards, but it's part of the defender's job and should be done properly.

H. ROSSUM
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

Joe Falls



(Continued From Page 2)

will, too. In fact, I picked him as the player of the last 25 years in that magazine poll. I guess that should worry Sandy since Willie Mays got the nod. But I don't see how they can keep him out of Cooperstown for very long. I also had Yogi Berra, Early Wynn, Ralph Kiner and Nellie Fox on my ballot. Last year I voted for 10 players. This time I only picked five. Don't ask me why. I guess I just want to be more selective.

Q: Doing any other voting?

A: The AP asked me to name the Male and Female Athlete of the Year. I picked Lee Trevino among the men and I hope the rest of the guys who vote remember how spectacular he was in the middle of the summer. I didn't send in a female vote because I don't know that many females. Athletes or otherwise. Who is Anne-Marie Proell?

An Expert on NBA

Q: Any other voting?

A: Just one other ballot—from the NBA office to pick the All-Star teams. Here's where I really sparkled. If there's one thing I know everything about, it's the NBA. In the West, I picked Bob Love, Cazzie Russell, Sidney Wicks, Kareem Jabbar, Wilt Chamberlain, Jerry West, Oscar Robertson and Len Wilkens. In the East, I went for Billy Cunningham, John Havlicek, Dave DeBusschere, Dave Cowens, Elmore Smith, Walt Frazier, Nate Archibald, Jo Jo White and Max Zaslofsky.

Q: That's one extra player for the East.

A: Okay, drop Havlicek. He never hustles.

Q: Any New Year's resolutions?

A: Yes. I resolve never again to ask anyone how he voted for the Cy Young Award.

Q: By the way, whom did you vote for?

A: I'm not telling.

Q: Do you think they should lift the blackout at the Super Bowl?

A: Nope.

Q: Nope? But the game is sold out. What good does it do to deprive the people of New Orleans a chance of seeing it on TV?

Catering to Free-Loaders

A: Maybe I'm old fashioned . . . or maybe I'm new-fashioned . . . but I don't think the football people owe the public a thing. Why should they have to provide free entertainment if it might hurt their business? This is a dollars-and-cents proposition.

Q: You don't seem to be in much of a holiday mood.

A: Well, I just think it's a little silly for people to sit at home and think it is their divine right to have all of this free entertainment piped into their houses. I've got to laugh at the Congressmen who want to pass legislation which would force football to give away its product.

Q: What was the most exciting moment of the whole year?

A: This is going to sound silly . . . because I don't know that much about the sport . . . but the most exciting moment of all was when they were putting the horses into the gate for the start of the Belmont Stakes. That was the most nervous I felt all year. You could just feel the tension everywhere, even in the press box. Was Canonero II going to make it? In fact, I couldn't believe I felt so nervous.

Michigan Power to Clash With Stanford Defense

By DWIGHT CHAPIN

PASADENA, Calif. — The Rose Bowl has come full cycle.

Michigan and Stanford got it started in 1902 with the Wolverines a 49-0 winner. Michigan and Stanford will be back again January 1.

"There is a particular nostalgia about this one," said Stanford Coach John Ralston.

But some things don't change. The hair length of the players—at least the Stanford players—is about where it was at the turn of the century. And the Indians will be in another familiar position, as underdogs.

Just about nobody figured they could beat mighty Ohio State last year, but they joked and relaxed their way through training camp and then knocked off the Buckeyes, 27-17.

The No. 1 factor in that victory, Jim Plunkett, is gone, and so, per-

Chapin Chooses

Michigan 21
Stanford 10

haps, is some of the game-time emotion that made the Indians winners a year ago.

But Stanford's visit to Pasadena last year was its first in two decades and Ralston said:

"Coming here is still far from old hat."

Part of the reason for that is the opponent, a Michigan team that swept through 11 regular-season games unbeaten, scoring 409 points to only 70 for its foes. The Wolverines hadn't gone undefeated since 1948, but it figured to happen under Bo Schembechler. In three years at Michigan, Bo's teams have won 28 of their 32 games, including 25 of their last 26 regular-season games.

He's known primarily as a defensive coach and his team did nothing to tarnish that reputation this season. The Wolverine defense gave up just 696 total yards—and less than a touchdown a game.

"That's really something in an age of offensive football," Ralston said.

Michigan's defensive strength would be enough to give Ralston nightmares. But the Wolverines were just as good—if not better—on offense this season.

First to Reach 400

They set two Big Ten records, 69.2 rushing attempts and 341.8 yards rushing per game. This also was the first Michigan team in modern history to score more than 400 points and it produced more first downs rushing, total first downs, rushing attempts and rushing yardage than any other Wolverine squad.

Stanford wouldn't figure to be able to cope with all of this, but neither the Big Ten nor the Pacific-8, which the Wolverines and Indians represent, were among the nation's strongest conferences in 1971.

Stanford has been a Jekyll and Hyde team this season.

The chief question is which Stanford team is going to show up New Year's Day.

Will it be the one that beat the Buckeyes in the Bowl and then went on to stop the teams it had to this season—Washington, 17-6; USC, 33-18; UCLA, 9-0, and California, 14-0?

Or will it be the team that was stunned by the likes of Duke, 9-3; Washington State, 24-23, and San Jose State, 13-12?

Indications are that it will be the former. The Indians, under Ralston, have been a loose, almost lackadaisical team when it doesn't matter . . . but a tough, dedicated team when it does.

"Remember," said Ralston, "that a year ago we'd lost two games at the end of the season and had to rebuild our entire base both on offense and defense. We've been far ahead, in our preparation for Michigan, of where we were in our preparations for Ohio State."



Don Bunce (Left) and Billy Taylor . . . Stanford QB, Michigan Runner Match Skills.

The Indians had better be, if they are going to stay in it.

Michigan scored 63 points against Iowa, 61 against Indiana, 56 against Virginia, 46 against Navy.

Stumpy running back Billy Taylor gained 1,215 yards, a 5.6 average per carry, and scored 13 touchdowns. Now a senior, Taylor has rushed for 2,990 yards in his career as a Wolverine, in a record 555 carries, for a 5.4-yard average. And he has 32 touchdowns, just one shy of Tom Harmon's school record.

Taylor is far from the whole Michigan offensive show, however. Running backs Ed Shuttlesworth, a blockbuster-type sophomore, Glenn Dougherty and Alan (Cowboy) Watts gained 813, 418 and 403 yards, respectively.

Sophomore quarterback Tom Slade added 225 on the ground, and passed for 338 more while working in combination with another rookie quarterback, Kevin Casey. As a unit, they weren't as productive as the departed Don Moorhead, but they didn't need to be, thanks to the grinding ground game led by Taylor, Shuttlesworth, Walker and Dougherty (who also topped the team in pass receptions, with 14 for 190 yards).

McKenzie Rugged Guard

"He does everything a great back should do," Schembechler said of Dougherty.

The Wolverines also have a star offensive lineman in guard Reggie McKenzie; two skilled punt returners in defensive backs Tom Darden and Bruce Elliott and a standout kicker in Dana Coin, who has booted a school-record seven field goals this season, and has 54 straight extra points (a modern NCAA record).

The unquestioned leader of the Michigan defense is 6-2, 220-pound Mike Taylor, whom Schembechler calls "as good as any linebacker in the country." Taylor had 127 tackles this season, while Tom Kee added 118.

What can Stanford do against all of this?

Well, the Indians, defensively, are very much the same team they were against Ohio State—led by the "Thunder Chickens" in the defensive line.

Pete Lazetich, the Montana strongman who gave them the nickname last season ("just because I thought we should have one") is back, along with Roger Cowan, Larry Butler and Greg Sampson. And something new

has been added—white shoes, hand-painted by Lazetich's wife.

Like Michigan, the Indians have an All-America at linebacker, senior Jeff Siemon, who led the team in tackles with 112. Ralston calls him "The best linebacker in the country." There is quality in the secondary, too, in Bennie Barnes (seven interceptions), Charles McCloud and Tim Robnett.

With Plunkett gone, the Indian offense was more balanced, but still relied on a star quarterback, this time Don Bunce, a redshirt last year

and a scrambler whom some coaches (including USC's John McKay) considered tougher to defend against than Plunkett.

"Don is a natural leader," said Ralston.

Bunce had his nose broken in Stanford's final game of the year, against Cal, but played the last two quarters that way.

His 3,284 total career yards place him fourth on Stanford's all-time list, behind Plunkett, Dick Norman and John Brodie. He led the Pacific-8 in both total offense and passing in

1971. His passing total was especially impressive—162 completions in 297 attempts (54.4 percent), and 13 touchdowns.

Fullback Hillary Shockley, one of the stars of Stanford's Rose Bowl win last year, was hurt much of the season and gained only 155 yards. But he reportedly will be well for the Bowl.

Most of the regular-season offensive load fell on Bunce, running back Jackie Brown (479 yards) and multi-talented sophomore John Winesberry, who rushed for 182 yards and caught 37 passes for 543.

Moore Sharp Receiver

But Bunce had two other favorite targets—Miles Moore, who was converted from defensive back, and Bill Scott, Bob Moore's successor at tight end. Moore caught 38 passes for 816 yards (and a 21.5-yard average), Scott 31 for 393 yards.

Then there's the kicker, little Rod Garcia, who finished the season as the school record holder with 14 field goals (and 24 of 27 extra points).

Michigan, despite its record, still has some detractors. Stanford has more than some. Yet the teams don't really look that far apart.

Schembechler has brought his team along much more gently than he did two years ago at Pasadena, when he drove it long and hard. The Wolverines appeared to burn themselves out in practice, and lost to USC, 10-3. Schembechler himself suffered a mild heart attack before the game.

But both coach and squad are healthy now and Schembechler said, "This is a better team than we had out here in 1969.

"The big thing is that our running game is better."

If Michigan can control the ball against Stanford, it should win. And it figures to control the ball. But that doesn't account for Bunce and the big play, the Thunder Chickens, and a group of self-styled swingers who proved a lot of experts wrong just a year ago.



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ONE OF Paul Giel's first acts as new athletic director at the University of Minnesota was to name Ken Yackel interim coach of the

Gopher hockey team. Yackel replaces Glen Sonmor, now coach of the Minnesota Saints in the World Hockey Association.

Giel Turns Pass Into Score As Gophers' Athletic Boss

By DICK GORDON

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. — Paul Giel's most effective play when he was an All-America halfback at the University of Minnesota was purely spontaneous. He would drop back to pass and then, finding his receivers covered, dodge the first rush of linemen and take off to the races.

This impromptu play netted a spectacular 64-yard touchdown run at Purdue in 1951 when Giel broke away from three tackles behind the line of scrimmage. And in almost all of his college games, the maneuver provided key third-down yardage in Gopher upsets or near-upsets.

Those recollections came to mind in the events surrounding Giel's appointment as athletic director at his alma mater. His actions were unplanned—but ultimately they may be just as effective as his impromptu runs on passing situations.

Shortly before he was to be approved for the position by the university board of regents, he told President Malcolm Moos to withdraw his name. This time it wasn't a pass, but really an intended run away from the job. Why? Because Paul didn't feel he was getting the free hand he needed and thought he had been promised in the selection of coaches, most importantly and currently the football man who would replace Murray Warmath.

Everybody Red-Faced

It was a highly embarrassing moment for Moos, the regents and the university's entire officialdom. But in the end, when the president and Giel got together two days later and resolved their "honest differences," Paul came out stronger than ever—just as he did on those third-down plays.

The misunderstanding, or whatever you call it, arose after Giel made a futile trip to Oklahoma to try to lure Bud Wilkinson, another

Gopher great, out of coaching retirement. On his return, he learned that university procedure required that his nominations for head coaching position be interviewed by a screening committee. This policy has been in effect at Minnesota the last couple of years and does not always make things easy for an athletic director.

Dr. Moos didn't back down, but a compromise was arrived at. The screening committee has been renamed an advisory group. Giel will serve as chairman and will have, in Moos' word, "the major input."

Giel—rhymes with wheel and deal—comes to Minnesota in a time of need and with virtually no experience for the job. His prime recommendations are his state-wide popularity, his ability to get along with other people and his capacity for hard work.

Red Ink Flowing

A likely \$250,000 deficit in the athletic department budget, along with losing football teams and declining Memorial Stadium attendance, prompted the Moos hunt for Giel and the end of the Marsh Ryman-Murray Warmath era.

Ryman took over as athletic director in 1963, after serving the department in other capacities for more than 20 years. Warmath was Minnesota's head coach from 1954 until the other day when he was "kicked upstairs" to a newly-created position of assistant athletic director in charge of special projects.

Giel, an All-America in baseball as well as football, turned down Moos' initial overtures for the reconstruction job at his alma mater.

"I was sure in my own mind that I didn't want to accept the challenge," said Giel, who was enjoying his work as sports director of radio station WCCO in Minneapolis.

"I was very happy and my future didn't depend on winning or losing football games. But the more I thought about the fact that the university was actually honoring me by offering me such an outstanding position, the more I was convinced that my original decision was a mistake. Here I was turning down a chance to become athletic director at my school—a position that almost any other 'M' man would jump at."

Trailed by Scouts

Yet Giel himself never really "jumped" at anything. The major league baseball scouts were already on his trail when he was hurling no-hitters in the Winona peewee and high school leagues. But he decided on getting his education first.

He signed an approximate \$60,000 bonus baseball contract with the then New York Giants shortly after pitching his last game for the Gophers in late May, 1954. By that time, his Gopher football record was even more spectacular, but Paul chose baseball.

Two years of Army service interrupted his career and then, as things turned out, he never quite made the big league grade, finishing 11-9 with 240 innings for his six years with the Giants, Pittsburgh, Kansas City and Minnesota.

That ended early in 1961.

After a short stint in the Minnesota Vikings' football office as assistant business manager, Giel took up sportscasting.

He was almost an immediate hit, both on the air and as one of the area's more entertaining speakers and emcees.

Moos figured he was the only man who could unite the state behind the university's athletic program.

"It's a challenge," Giel said. And he's so right!



college football

By TOM SILER

Hayes Admonished—Secretly, Of Course

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.—It was all in the family but Big Ten officials censured Ohio State's Woody Hayes for his outlandish behavior on the football sidelines. Secrecy, of course, defeats the purpose of the rebuke and Hayes will do it again, as he has done many times in the past. . . . The American Football Coaches Association embraces the same hush-hush tactics in charging coaches with a violation of ethics, which greatly weakens their well-meaning efforts to raise ethical standards in the coaching profession. . . . Alabama has a great many unhappy alumni hard on an 11-0-0 season. That's because many can't get tickets to the Alabama-Nebraska Orange Bowl battle for the national title. . . . Paul Bryant said the school received 32,000 requests for tickets, but had only 12,000 tickets to sell. . . . The school had to return more than \$100,000.

SOUND CHOICE: Maryland hired a sound football man in Jerry Clavine, a defensive aide at Colorado, who was formerly head coach at Virginia Tech. . . . Jerry fell short at Virginia Tech, not in the fundamentals of football, but in alumni affairs, public relations and recruiting. . . . Jerry played football under Bear Bryant at Kentucky 20 years ago. . . . At Minnesota, empty seats dictated the departure of Murray Warmath as football coach. The average attendance figure fell below 35,000 in a stadium that seats 65,000. . . . New Athletic Director Paul Giel made the right first move. He went to see Charles (Bud) Wilkinson, who assured him quickly that he (Bud) had no desire to return to coaching. . . . Wilkinson, a former Minnesota star, is the first man the alumni think of when the school goes shopping for a coach. . . . Giel, a former star himself, also discovered pronto that he wouldn't have a free hand. . . . Regents and trustees at most schools want to have a hand in picking a football coach, although few of them have the slightest idea of whom to hire or why.

Blackman Rates Cheers at Illinois

SUPER JOB: He isn't likely to get Coach-of-the-Year, but I'd have to wonder if any coach did a better job than Bob Blackman of Illinois. In his first year there (after a great career at Dartmouth), he found things disorganized. His team couldn't beat anybody early in the year, then reeled off consecutive victories over his last five foes. . . . Rudy Feldman of New Mexico told Baylor officials he'd take the football job, but a day later backed up and said he was going to stay where he was and is. . . . John Majors of Iowa State already had refused an offer from Baylor, which has been a basement team in the Southwest Conference for some time. . . . Oddly, a gradual loosening of denominational ties has hurt Baylor, a Baptist school. . . . They used to say out in Texas that the Baylor coach could recruit most of the Baptist-reared prep athletes in Texas, and there were lots of them, but that isn't true any more.

BIG EXODUS: Southwest Conference schools can't do anything about it, but they're unhappy with the fact that they're losing quite a few prep stars to Big Eight schools. . . . They say they're losing them because Big Eight schools begin courting the preppers a year earlier. . . . Under SWC rules, schools aren't supposed to contact a boy until he finishes his last year of competition. . . . Oklahoma's Greg Pruitt and Jack Milden and Colorado's Charlie Davis are just three of many Texas-based boys starring in the Big Eight. . . . Someone reminded the fleet Pruitt that just two years ago Oklahoma averaged four yards a play on offense. . . . He sniffed, "Four yards? With us, that's a busted play!" . . . Johnny Musso, the Alabama runner, asked Milden for some advice with the Tide-Nebraska game coming up in Miami. . . . Said Milden, "Get hurt before the game."

13 Million Watch Big Game

TV TOPPER: The Nebraska-Oklahoma game on Thanksgiving Day topped all previous college ratings on TV. . . . Ratings indicated the game was seen in 13.6 million homes. . . . We'll be particularly interested in what the ratings reveal on the Liberty Bowl's Tennessee-Arkansas battle Monday night, December 20. . . . ABC-TV expected a huge audience, figuring the college booking would fall heir to the millions who've been watching a pro game on that night. . . . On one of those recent Cosell-Gifford-Meredith shows, Cosell was commenting patronizingly of Tom Prothro's fine first year with the L. A. Rams. . . . Prothro's coaching success there is no surprise. . . . He was a great coach at Oregon State and UCLA and he'll be a standout with the pros, too, as will Green Bay's Dan Devine, formerly at Missouri. . . . There's a rich field to pick from in case other pro clubs want to tap a college wizard. . . . Pro coaching should be a snap after a decade or two on the campus. . . . Ask Blanton Collier, who turned out many fine pro teams at Cleveland, following so-so success at the University of Kentucky. . . . The college job is much tougher. . . . On campus, you've got to recruit, be nice to alumni, sweat out the classroom work of the athletes as well as try to whip a wide variety of teams, many of which you play only once or twice in a decade. . . . And the college coach must adapt his football ideas, offense and defense, to an ever-changing flow of athletes. . . . Many college coaches refused pro jobs, among them the late Jim Tatum, Bear Bryant, Bud Wilkinson, Bobby Dodd, the late Bowden Wyatt and Ara Parseghian.

RATING SYSTEM: Bowl battling could give the football buffs a good yardstick on the comparative strength of the two best-balanced leagues—Big Eight and Southeastern Conference. . . . LSU got the SEC off a bit ahead with a 33-15 conquest of Iowa State in the Sun Bowl. . . . Coming up are the Nebraska-Alabama and Oklahoma-Auburn duels. . . . And on top of that SEC prestige could soar if Tennessee, Georgia and Ole Miss manage to win bowl games. . . . Ole Miss meets Georgia Tech in the Peach Bowl and Georgia buckles down against North Carolina in the Gator Bowl.

Senior Bowl Solves Numbering Problem

MOBILE, Ala.—Senior Bowl officials had a problem when they discovered that the South's quarterbacks, Pat Sullivan of Auburn and John Reaves of Florida, both wore No. 7 throughout their collegiate careers. Bowl officials solved the problem by designating Sullivan 7S and Reaves 7R.

Penn State Nurses Old Grudge Against Texas

By DAVE CAMPBELL

DALLAS, Tex. — Two years ago, Penn State versus Texas in the Cotton Bowl would have been for all the marbles. Texas held them at the time, having been crowned national champion at the end of the regular season by any number of organizations and people, including that man in the White House himself, President Richard M. Nixon.

But if Penn State then had whipped the Longhorns in Dallas' big bowl on New Year's Day—well, the spoils still belong to the victor, don't they? But the game never came off. Texas beat Notre Dame on the first day of the new year and remained the national champion. Penn State defeated Missouri in the Orange Bowl and clamed long and loud but in vain for similar recognition. At the finish, both teams retired for the season undefeated and untied.

Now both come to the 1972 Cotton Bowl with records blemished and hopes of a national title belonging to other teams. Other than sectional

Campbell Chooses
Texas 24
Penn State 20

pride, all that is riding on the Dallas confrontation this time is the bushel of Texas grapefruit against the bushel of Pennsylvania apples that the governors of the two states have wagered on the outcome. All of which leads some observers to suggest that this is one Cotton Bowl game whose time already has come and gone.

Pennsylvania and especially Penn Staters, it turns out, have memories approximately as long as that of an elephant. They still remember 1969 and do a slow burn. Texans generally interpret that slow burn as a still-smoldering challenge to their 1969 national title, and it may be that no team in major college football responds to a challenge better than the Longhorns.

Vols Tame Lions

Thus, this is a game in which little things—or at least things two years old—mean a lot. Obviously they would have meant even more if something not-so-funny had not happened to Coach Joe Paterno and his Nittany Lions en route to the Cotton Bowl. They stopped by Knoxville to play Tennessee and got beat.

Before that game, Paterno had been asked just how good this latest undefeated Penn State team was and he had replied that he didn't rightly know.

"But if we beat Tennessee and Texas," he said. "I think I'm gonna



Lydell Mitchell . . . Penn State's National Scoring Champ.

shoot off my mouth again."

In other words, he was ready to claim that the No. 5 rating the wire services were attaching to his pupils was at least four notches too low. With the 31-11 Tennessee defeat still fresh in mind, Paterno just hoped to make up for lost ground. "We'll certainly try to make up for this in the Cotton Bowl," said Joe.

That Texas should even be on hand in Dallas as the party of the second part is a major surprise, and also a

major comeback. At mid-season, the Longhorns were given up for dead.

All along, this had been tabbed as a rebuilding year for Texas. Then, in addition, it became the year of the injuries, and finally, in a two-week span involving games against Oklahoma and Arkansas, it became the year of the crushing defeat. Oklahoma mauled the Longhorns, 48-27; then Arkansas put it on them, 31-7. Razorback fans started ordering Cotton Bowl tickets while Orange partisans started talking about New Year's Day.

Aggies Halt Porkers

Texas A&M and Rice changed all that. The Aggies upset the Razorbacks and the Owls tied them. That opened the door for Texas. The Longhorns stampeded through it and never looked back, winning their last five games by a combined score of 150-42 and sewing up a Cotton Bowl berth for an unprecedented fourth straight time.

Over that span, "Super Sub" quarterback Donnie Wigginton started every game, filling in for an injured Eddie Phillips. Before it was all over, Wigginton had led the SWC in scoring (84 points), tied a Texas record of long standing for touchdowns scored in a single season (14), and won Darrell Royal's praise as the most valuable player in the Southwest Conference.

But Wigginton may not start against Penn State. Phillips has had time to recover from the hamstring and shoulder injuries that stymied him for all but the Texas opener against UCLA. In mid-December he was back directing the first team in workouts.

But whether Phillips or Wiggin-

ton, the Texas quarterback in the Cotton Bowl will guide an attack that features the usual Longhorn blend of power and trickery as spun off the wishbone. The gifted do-it-all Jim Bertelsen, a splendid senior, teams with flashy sophomore Don Burris at the halfbacks, and another fast soph, Dennis Ladd, has taken over at fullback after a late-season surge.

The Texas offensive line hardly measures up to last year's blue-ribbon crew but it does feature two formidable talents in All-America tackle Jerry Sisemore and terrific sophomore guard Don Crosslin. Although the Longhorns, as always, make sparing use of the forward pass, they have two fine catchers in split end Pat Kelly and tight end Rick Davis, another pair of stand-out sophomores.

Longhorns Bear Down

Defensively, the Longhorns just got better and better as the season wore on. They blanked two of their last three opponents and they shut out Texas A&M in their finale until they had a 34-point lead. Penn State is not likely to find many weaknesses in the front seven—ends Jay Arnold and Malcolm Minnick (sophomores), tackles Greg Ploetz and Ray Dowdy (seniors), or linebackers Tommy Woodward (senior), Randy Braband (junior), Glenn Gaspard or Bruce Cannon (sophomores).

It was only after the coaches moved Arnold and Minnick to the end posts and Woodward and Gaspard got well that the Texas defense began to play as the Longhorns' picket line usually plays.

In the secondary, the key name is

Alan Lowry, a junior halfback who majors in interceptions. Next year he is ticketed to take over at quarterback.

This is a Texas team with a lot of quickness rather than size. Sisemore (255), Crosslin (238) and guard Travis Roach (245) have size in the offensive line, and Braband (227) is a hefty linebacker. Otherwise, the Longhorns hardly compare in heft to the Penn Staters, whose smallest man up front offensively is guard Carl Schaukowitch (217).

Paterno's Nittany Lions also have it all over the Horns in scoring average (41.3 points to 27.5) and total offense 454.1 yards to 362.5), and in nationally acclaimed players. Sisemore was Texas' only All-American; Penn State had three—national scoring champion Lydell Mitchell (174 points), offensive tackle Dave Joyner (240) and linebacker Charles Zapiec (219).

Lions Boost Balance

The Nittany Lions also have the offensive balance most coaches crave. They earned 3,563 yards rushing, 1,648 passing. Texas got only 699 yards aerially compared to 2,926 airdromes. Penn State quarterback John Hufnagel, with 86 completions, had more than twice as many aerial strikes as Wigginton. But it was Wigginton's passes that sparked a winning Longhorn comeback against SMU.

While Texas stays with the wishbone, Penn State attacks mainly from a power-I which features the work of Mitchell and Franco Harris at the running backs and tight ends Bob Parsons and Bob Rickenbach. Defensively, Paterno's team figured to be good, with linebacker Zapiec and Gary Gray and tackle Frank Ahrenhold, but it got the boost it needed when end Jim Laslavic and Gregg Ducatte at safety came through big. Tennessee managed 31 points but no long sustained drives.

"Penn State is a very solid club," analyzes a veteran opponent, Syracuse Coach Ben Schwartzwalder, "and as long as they have Lydell Mitchell and enough of their other folks, they'll give anybody a tough game."

Will the Nittany Lions have trouble stopping the wishbone?

"Sure they'll have trouble," Schwartzwalder replies. "Why shouldn't they? . . . everybody else has trouble trying to stop it."

But Ben's defensive chief, Joe Szombathy, has found Penn State "a very tough team to finesse, and they're almost impossible to pass against because they play a very fine zone defense."

A Strong Incentive

And they will have going for them in this game a hidden weapon—the desire to prove themselves at Texas' expense. Already the Southwest Conference has had a taste of that. When TCU met Penn State earlier this season, Frog coaches and players were amazed to find Paterno had sold his team and school and fans on the idea that this was the state of Pennsylvania vs. the state of Texas and a great chance to make up for 1969. Result: Penn State 66, TCU 14.

One TCU player, tight end Ronnie Peoples, compares the two Cotton Bowl opponents this way: "They are both good teams. Texas is smaller and quick. Penn State is bigger and quick."

Until running into that ambush in Knoxville, Penn State figured to be a solid favorite in Dallas. Now Texas is the pick of the professional handicappers by three points.

"When Penn State is fired up, this team can be awesome," analyzes Pat Truly, one Fort Worth-based writer who saw the Nittany Lions dismantle TCU.

No one doubts that Paterno will have his team fired up for Texas.



Texas QB Eddie Phillips and Coach Darrell Royal.

West's Line Will Provide Acid Test for Marinaro

By JIM SCOTT

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—Is Ed Marinaro for real? This is one of the many questions to be answered in the East-West Shrine game in Candlestick Park December 31.

Cornell's Marinaro set an NCAA record for rushing with 1,881 yards in 1971. He also scored a rare triple sweep by leading in scoring and all-purpose running (214.9 average). Moreover, he became the first college runner to gain more than 4,000 yards in a career. His total of 4,715 was 848 over the former record.

However, Ed's bonanza was achieved largely against Ivy League opposition. He may find the West line something else again. It is anchored by THE SPORTING NEWS

Scott's Selection

East 30

West 27

All-America, Sherman White of California, and Dave Chaney, linebacker from San Jose State.

Pro scouts are eager to see how Marinaro will perform in this stratum of competition before deciding on his draft position.

Right now, they're higher on Oregon's Bobby Moore, an all-purpose back, regarded as another Lennie Moore. A three-time All-Coast selection and also THE SPORTING NEWS All-America, Bobby, 6-2, 212, accomplished the improbable feat of leading a major football school in rushing, pass-catching and scoring.

Moore will be flanked by a similar breakaway threat in Washington State's Bernard Jackson. The pro scouts also are eager to see this pair against talented opposition.

Choice Pass Targets

USC's Jimmy Jones and San Diego State's Brian Sipe, who'll handle the West's air game, have dandy targets in Washington's Jim (Blitz) Krieg and Oregon's Leland Glass.

The West further is bulwarked by the nation's leading punter, Marv Bateman, THE SPORTING NEWS All-America from Utah.

Marinaro (6-2½, 210), too, has an elusive running mate in Eric (The Flea) Allen of Michigan State, who set a Big Ten rushing record of 1,494 yards and also scored 18 touchdowns.

The East will be menacing by air as well, for it should have better passing from Florida's John Reaves and Minnesota's Craig Curry.

Reaves set an NCAA career passing record of 7,549, breaking Jim Plunkett's mark at Stanford.

However, Reaves' standard should have an asterisk after it. Florida's defense allowed Miami to score a meaningless touchdown near game's end so Reaves would have the



Ed Marinaro Breaks Into the Clear to Pick Up a Chunk of Yardage Against Yale.

chance to set the record. And he did, beating Plunkett's mark by five yards.

The East also is well fixed with receivers, including Jerome Barkum, Jackson (Miss.) State; John McMakin, Clemson, and Mike Siani of Villanova, another who made THE SPORTING NEWS All-America.

The pros are as excited over Chester Marcol as anyone else. He was the first player selected for the Shrine Classic.

62-Yard Field Goal

A former soccer goalie in Poland, Marcol played for Hillsdale College, near Detroit, in 1969, when he kicked a college record 62-yard field goal. In 1971, Chester booted eight field goals of 50 yards or longer.

The scouts also are taken by the altitude of his punts, since rarely are the two talents combined. At 6-1, 190 pounds, Marcol also has played defensive back and split end. He loves contact and is a fierce tackler.

Moore and Jackson will have to

contest with three standout members of Louisiana State's fierce defensive team, tackle Ron Estay, linebacker Lloyd Frye and cornerback Tom Casanova. Estay goes in a strong front line with Michigan State's Ron Curl, Notre Dame's Fred Swendsen and Northwestern's Will Hemby.

The West is coached by Hayden

Fry of Southern Methodist, assisted by San Diego State's Don Coryell and Washington's Jim Owens. Indiana's John Pont is the head East coach, aided by Yale's Carmen Cozza and North Carolina State's Earl Edwards.

Dan Pastorini last year made it three straight for the West, which now holds a 23-18-5 lead in the series.

The Santa Clara quarterback, now with Houston, kicked a record 42-yard field goal and threw a 45-yard touchdown pass to pace the West's 17-13 victory.

Pastorini's field goal was a record from placement. Illinois' Frosty Peters drop-kicked a 44-yarder in 1930.

Marcol, the trilingual Pole, could erase both marks.

Cyclones' Errors Assist LSU

EL PASO, Tex.—Disappointed but proud. That was Iowa State Coach Johnny Majors' reaction to the Cyclones' first bowl appearance.

Critical early errors forced the Cyclones to play catch-up football most of the way. Louisiana State, flashing a balanced attack and holding mistakes to a minimum, rolled to a 33-15 victory in the 37th annual Sun Bowl game December 18.

Iowa State lost four fumbles and had one pass intercepted while Louisiana State lost two fumbles and had no interceptions.

"Our players wanted to look good, and they did," said Majors. "There were many things which our players did that I've never seen done in a college football game before. I'll never forget the way they hit, or the way they kept coming back."

Seven Costly Errors

Majors said Iowa State had seven critical errors during the game and too many of them came early. He said the mistakes forced the Cyclones out of their game plan, and found them trying to play catch-up almost from the start.

"That's mighty tough against a team like LSU," Majors noted. "The game had to be one of the hardest hitting, most aggressive games I've ever seen."

During the first five minutes, Iowa State fumbled away the ball twice and turned it over on an eight-yard punt, allowing LSU possession inside the 30-yard line each time.

However, the Cyclones' determined defense kept Iowa State hopes alive

until midway through the fourth quarter.

LSU went ahead on two 39-yard field goals by Jay Michaelson in the first quarter and Reggie Shoemake booted a 32-yarder in the second period. The first half ended with the Tigers clinging to a 6-3 lead.

LSU Strikes Through Air

The offense exploded in the second half, when LSU quarterback Bert Jones fired three touchdown passes and ran for a fourth TD. Jones hit setback Andy Hamilton for 37 yards, split end Gerald Kigley for 21 yards and tight end Michaelson for six yards. The LSU quarterback ran six yards for the Tigers' other TD.

Iowa State scored on two passes from quarterback Dean Carlson, one covering 30 yards to fullback Larry Marquardt and the other a one-yarder to tight end Keith Krepfle. The Cyclones attempted two-point pass conversions following each of their touchdowns, but both went awry.

Jones, a junior who shared the LSU quarterbacking with Paul Lyons, finished the afternoon with 12 completions in 18 attempts for 227 yards. For his efforts he was named the game's most valuable player.

Matt Blair, Iowa State noseguard, was voted the outstanding defensive player.

Blair led a defense that was spectacular, especially on a goal line stand just before halftime. The Cyclones stopped the Tigers on five plays inside the two-yard line and finally took possession of the ball on downs to run out the clock. A face-

mask penalty had given the Tigers an extra play in the series.

Iowa State defensive captain Keith Schroeder and LSU offensive guard Mike Demarie were ejected from the game early in the second half, leaving a bitter taste for both players.

"I had never been thrown out of a game before," said Schroeder, disappointed that he had to end his college career on such a note.

"We felt the officials got a little overexcited," said LSU's McClendon, speaking for Demarie. "Over all, they did a good job," McClendon added.

Jones on Target

SCORE BY PERIODS

Iowa State	0	3	6	6-15
Louisiana State	6	0	13	14-33

SCORING

Louisiana State—Field goal, Michaelson 39.

Louisiana State—Field goal, Michaelson 39.

Iowa State—Field goal, Schoemake 32.

Louisiana State—Hamilton, 37 pass from Jones (Michaelson kick).

Louisiana State—Kigley, 21 pass from Jones (kick failed).

Iowa State—Marquardt, 30 pass from Carlson (pass failed).

Iowa State—Krepfle, 1 pass from Carlson (pass failed).

Louisiana State—Michaelson, 6 pass from Jones (Michaelson kick).

Louisiana State—Jones, 6 run (Michaelson kick).

TEAM STATISTICS

	Iowa State	LSU
First downs	16	13
Rushing yardage	83	187
Passing yardage	249	227
Return yardage	135	138
Passes	19-35-1	12-23-1
Punts	9-34.2	5-29.4
Fumbles lost	4	2
Yards penalized	61	60
Attendance	33,530	60

All-Star East-West Rosters

WEST SQUAD

Offense

Ends—Leland Glass, Oregon; Tom Reynolds, San Diego State; Bob Christiansen, UCLA.

Interior linemen—Buzz Brazeau, Washington State; Tom Drougas, Oregon; Steve Busch, Washington State; Gordon Gravelle, Brigham Young; Dave Dalby, UCLA; Jack Turnbull, Oregon State.

Backs—Jim Jones, USC; Brian Sipe, San Diego State; Jim Krieg, Washington; Bob Moore, Oregon; Bernard Jackson, Washington State; Gary Hammond, SMU; Dave Schilling, Oregon State.

Kicker—Marv Bateman, Utah.

Defense

Linemen—Jim Sherbert, Oregon State; Willie Hall, USC; Sherman White, California; John Kahler, Long Beach State; Gary Sutton, Baylor.

Linebackers—Rick Huguet, Washington; Sherwood Blount, SMU; Mark Arneson, Arizona; Dave Chaney, San Jose State.

Backs—Willie Buchanan, San Diego State; Pat Curry, SMU; Ray Youngblood, California; Ralph McGill, Tulsa University.

EAST SQUAD

Offense

Ends—Mike Siani, Villanova; Jerome Barkum, Jackson State; John McMakin, Clemson.

Interior linemen—Lionel Antoine, Southern Illinois; Dick Simon, Ohio State; Bart Buetow, Minnesota; Tom Lukken, Purdue; John Hill, Lehigh; Jim Osborne, Southern University; Robert Kuziel, Pittsburgh.

Backs—John Reaves, Florida; Craig Currie, Minnesota; Ed Marinaro, Cornell; Eric Allen, Michigan State; Mike Rich, Florida.

Kicker—Chester Marcol, Hillsdale.

Defense

Linemen—Will Hemby, Northwestern; Ron Estay, LSU; Ron Curl, Michigan State; Fred Swendsen, Notre Dame.

Linebackers—Bill Light, Minnesota; Jack Deming, Northwestern; Lloyd Frye, LSU; Ed Bradley, Wake Forest.

Backs—Tom Myers, Syracuse; Dick Harris, South Carolina; Tommy Casanova, LSU; Ralph Stepaniak, Notre Dame; Harry Howard, Ohio State.



The Problem With NHL Officiating . . . It's Spread Too Thin.



speaking out on hockey

By STAN FISCHLER

Montreal Fans Are a Demanding Bunch

NEW YORK, N. Y.—When Jean Beliveau captained the Montreal Canadiens, he occasionally moaned about the demands inflicted upon him. "If I scored one goal, they wanted two," he would say. "And if I got two, they wanted three."

Beliveau, "la creme de la creme," among contemporary centers, learned that, as far as fans were concerned, the best often was not good enough.

Beliveau has since retired but the demands of the supposedly sophisticated Montreal hockey fans persist. The Stanley Cup champion Canadiens are contenders again; they are skating at a speedier pace than at the same time last year and have remained a threat even without their crack defenseman, Serge Savard.

Yet, the murmurings of discontent still bubble forth from time to time. The general feeling is that the champs are not playing like champs. More specifically, it has been suggested that the Canadiens are not responding to Coach Scotty Bowman the way it had been anticipated when Bowman replaced Al MacNeil.

Perhaps that explains the seemingly inexplicable deal the Canadiens recently made—trading husky, tough Phil Roberto, who is only 22, to St. Louis for aging Jim Roberts, who is nine years older. The key to the trade could very well be that Roberts was one of Bowman's trusty workmen in St. Louis and is one skater who will respond to Bowman.

The flak surrounding MacNeil's departure made it seem that Bowman's arrival would be such a tonic that the Canadiens might never lose another hockey game. Actually, MacNeil was revered by many Montreal players, as a person, and considered a good coach by at least goalie Ken Dryden.

Although Dryden hasn't spelled it out for publication, he has told intimates that while Bowman is an insightful analyst of the game, the new coach remains a cold fish and fails to relate to people as well as MacNeil.

Bowman's Blast Depressed Lapointe

Some of the more sensitive Canadiens have been stung by Bowman's machete style of criticism. One such unfortunate target was gifted young defenseman Guy Lapointe, who was accused by Bowman of being "a lake skater" after Guy strayed out of position once too often. Insiders report that Lapointe was depressed about Bowman's crack for several days.

This is not to suggest that Bowman's style is wrong. The Canadiens have had some pungent coaches in recent history. Toe Blake still holds the Madison Square Garden record for door-slammings while his predecessor, Dick Irvin, could melt cast iron with his stare.

One day Irvin converted what normally was a one-hour clubhouse chalk-talk into a one-minute lesson. Dick had a huge goal net installed in the dressing room, and once the players were seated, explained: "The idea is to put this in there." He then tossed the puck into the net and walked out of the dressing room. End of seminar.

Bowman's problem may be that the coaching darts of the '40s, '50s, and '60s, which often landed on target, may boomerang on him in 1971.

SHOTS ON SHETLER: Former National Hockey League linesman Pat Shetler tells me that several players have put him down for remarks he recently made about officials having it tougher than players. "Players are only on the ice a quarter or, at most, a third of the game, but the official can't say, 'Teacher, take me off the ice.'

"The officials are sharper, have better I.Q., better eyesight and a greater love of the game than the players."

Pat, who now handles the television color commentary for the Philadelphia Flyers, also had some unkind comments about the Ontario Hockey Association—which also shot back at him—charging that there was "a terrific clique in the OHA."

Ebullient and efficient as a linesman, Shetler has become an attractive, if not controversial character, in his new medium.

Can Rangers Avenge 8-1 Loss to Bruins?

RANGERS VS. BRUINS: Just how the Rangers and Bruins will finish in the East Division likely will be more firmly suggested if not decided on January 2 at Madison Square Garden when New York hosts Boston.

A step in this direction was taken on December 16 at Boston Garden when the Bruins humiliated the Rangers, 8-1. Concerned New York followers are wondering whether the trauma will have a lasting effect on Emile Francis' troops.

The scenario between these rivals hasn't changed since 1967. Boston's muscle and scoring power vs. the Rangers' lighthorse finesse. Some observers, such as Chicago defenseman Keith Magnuson and Toronto Vice-President King Clancy, believe that recent NHL legislation against fight-joining has curbed the boisterous B's.

"The Bruins," says Magnuson, "are gang fighters, or at least they used to be. Guys like Sanderson aren't as eager to get into fights now."

Yet, against New York it was Ken Hodge who was eager to save Ted Green from a pummeling he was receiving from Brad Park, indicating that the Bruins are still the gang-fighting Kodiaks of old. Needless to say, Green, by his behavior, had forfeited the sympathy vote he had briefly inspired after his 1969 head injury. Boston propaganda to the contrary, Terrible Ted, like the Bruins, remains unchanged, circa 1967 or 1971.

That's nothing but bad news for New York. Taming Boston requires more than Brad Park battering Green. Perhaps speed and finesse can do it, but the results will have to be more forcibly underlined January 2 to satisfy New Yorkers.

Kings Make Merry Against Wings

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—The Los Angeles Kings figure they might get out of the National Hockey League's Western Division cellar if they could arrange a few more games with the Detroit Red Wings. The expansion Kings, with only 15 points and the worst record in the NHL this season, defeated Detroit for the second time in three games when they won, 4-2, December 18.

NHL east

By LEO MONAHAN

Acute Shortage of Officials

BOSTON, Mass. — Expansion has created problems—and money—for the National Hockey League. The product has been diluted. Everybody knows that. But what has gone largely unnoticed is the declining quality of the officiating. Referees and linesmen who ordinarily would be working in the minor leagues, if at all, now are cavorting in the zebra stripes of the NHL.

The NHL now has 14 teams. Next season it will have 16 with the admission of Long Island and Atlanta. Where, oh, where will referee-in-chief Ian (Scotty) Morrison get enough whistle-tooters to handle the games?

It's getting so that the presence of a top-flight referee, an Art Skov, Bill Friday or John Ashley, is a rarity. Most NHL games are officiated by the second or third-raters. This detracts from the show the NHL always brags about.

There is only a handful of top-notch linesmen in the league. Among them are Neil Armstrong, Matt Pavelich and John D'Amico. The remainder aren't so competent.

The problem with NHL officiating is that it's spread too thin. In addition to providing officials for NHL games, Morrison must supply whistle-tooters for the American, Central and Western leagues. When you consider the number of games played in all these leagues, you can realize the problem.

Top Ref Paid \$20,000

Top-flight NHL officials are well paid. A top referee can earn more than \$20,000 a season and all of them are on one-year contracts. Now the NHL is worried that the fledgling World Hockey Association will siphon off some of the talent, thin as it is.

For prestige events such as the All-Star Game—January 27 in Minnesota—or the Stanley Cup playoffs, the NHL is able to provide top officiating. However, for regular-season games, it's a different story.

Referees and linesmen with vision, sound judgment and a sense for the tempo of the games are hard to get. Some of the newer fans aren't aware of this — yet. But the old-timers are. Right now there seems to be no solution to the problem.

ICE CHIPS—Rumors persist that Hal Laycoe is skating on thin ice as coach of the Vancouver Canucks. Laycoe lasted just 24 games as coach of the Los Angeles Kings in 1969. The Canucks this season aren't faring much better than they did a year ago. There are reported "differences" between Laycoe and General Manager Bud Poile, who is a quick man with the ax. However, business is good in Vancouver. The Pacific Coliseum will be enlarged by 3,000 seats before next season. This will increase capacity to 18,500 and give

more Western Canadians a chance to see NHL hockey. . . . The New York Rangers have a roster of 19 men, two over the limit permitted to suit up for games. The Rangers suit up six defensemen. The sixth man is hard-hitting Gary Doak, acquired in a trade with Vancouver.

Stemkowski Wearing Helmet

Big Peter Stemkowski is back in harness with the Rangers after missing 19 games with a concussion and neck injury. He's wearing a helmet. At the moment, Stemkowski ranks as a spear carrier. . . . Toronto's vice-president in charge of conversation, Frank (King) Clancy, keeps bleating to the press that somebody should help out the Maple Leafs. Clancy's pleas have fallen on deaf ears. The Leafs' problem is that they didn't help themselves enough when they were in the driver's seat and now they are paying the price. Biggest need is a couple of robust defensemen, a scarce commodity.

Yvan Cournoyer, the fleet little winger for the Montreal Canadiens, has been bothered by a bruised rib cage. There are some who feel that Cournoyer is the fastest skater in the NHL. . . . NHL President Clarence Campbell has come out in favor of the Detroit Red Wings in their disputed deal with the California Seals—Tom Webster for defenseman Ron Stackhouse. Webster, it develops, required surgery on his back for a chronic condition. The Seals wanted to nullify the deal, but Campbell said he has no jurisdiction over such matters, despite the howls from California Owner Charles O. Finley.

George (Punch) Imlach, manager-coach of the Buffalo Sabres, is taking out his displeasure with his charges by conducting rigorous practice sessions, including 30 minutes of end-to-end sprints, the equivalent of football's grass drills.

Recently, in fact, defenseman Doug Barrie still was working out when all others had been excused. He had a shouting match with Imlach at this time, and the next day he was gone, but good. Imlach traded Barrie with minor leaguer Mike Keeler to Los Angeles for defenseman Larry Hillman and winger Mike Byers. Byers scored 27 goals for the Kings in 1970-71. He promptly netted two goals in a 5-1 win over Vancouver in his first home start for the Sabres.

A Crazy Schedule

An oddity in the schedule didn't bring the Vancouver Canucks into Buffalo until mid-December. There are many such quirks in the schedule and there will be more next season when the two new entries come into the league. . . . Insiders report that the prime reason the Canadiens traded forward Phil Roberto to St. Louis—for Jim Roberts—was that Roberto was dangling the World

Hockey Association in front of General Manager Sammy Pollock when he tried to renegotiate his contract.

The World Hockey Association will conduct its secret draft of pro and amateur players January 14-15-16 in Los Angeles. This is supposed to be hush-hush stuff. The WHA has been trying to avoid the press until it gets its bearings. . . . Marty Howe, 17 year-old son of Gordie, the all-time Detroit great, has fit right into the Junior A picture playing for the Toronto Marlboros. He anchors an all-rookie defense. "Marty has had so much more publicity than any other 17-year-old player that it's tough to think of him as being that young and in his first year of major Junior A hockey," said Marlie Coach Frank Bonello. "He has more poise than most his age."

Leafs Want to Deal

Toronto General Manager Jim Gregory still is trying to swing a deal similar to the one of a year ago that brought goalie Bernie Parent to his club from Philadelphia. "I think I've talked to every team in the league except Buffalo and Montreal," said Gregory. "Maybe not much with Minnesota, but a little. We could have made some deals, but none that were acceptable."

Montreal is pushing goaltender Ken Dryden for rookie of the year honors, but Buffalo has a strong candidate in winger Richard Martin, who ranks among the NHL's top scorers. The big knock on Martin, however, is his defensive record. He has been on the ice for more opposition goals than he has scored. Still, Imlach predicts stardom for Martin.

Howe Likes New Role

Detroit's great Gordie Howe, retired after 25 years in the NHL, isn't unhappy about his new role as a vice-president of the Red Wings. "I really love it," said Howe. "It does not bother me one bit about not playing any more. There's no doubt in my mind that I made the right decision. This is a whole new career. I'm learning so much that I don't have time to miss playing hockey." . . . One of the prime spawning grounds for NHL players is the little town of Kirkland Lake, Ont. Among the players currently in the NHL from that mining town are the Hillman brothers, Larry and Wayne; the Plagers, Barclay, Bob and Bill; Mike Walton, Ralph Backstrom, Murray Hall, Mickey Redmond, Jim Watson, Tom Webster, Dick Redmond. From the past came Dick Duff, Ted Lindsay, Bill Durnan, Don Gross, Kilby MacDonald, Gus Mortson, Floyd Curry, Willie Marshall, Floyd Hillman and Buddy Boone. A monument recently was unveiled in Kirkland Lake to honor all the players who went from that area to professional hockey fame.

Durnan, an ambidextrous goalie, won the Vezina Trophy six times playing for the Montreal Canadiens.

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CAN MINORS BE RESCUED?

Houston director of player personnel Tal Smith may never see his concept for the grouping of all minor league clubs below the Triple-A level in one complex come to pass. Nevertheless, he should be given credit for shaking up the establishment to the extent that some serious consideration will be given to the constructive alteration of current major-minor relationships.

The initial steps in that direction may be taken later this month in New York when a committee of nine representatives from major and minor league organizations meets to discuss possible revisions in the player development contract.

Among other things, the PDC spells out subsidies provided by major league "parents" to their minor league affiliates, in exchange for which the big league club is granted almost unlimited control of the playing personnel involved.

The subsidization takes various forms: Payment of a specific sum for successful completion of the season by a farm club, reimbursement of a portion of players' salaries, the assumption of spring training expenses and so forth.

These expenses are considerable, and the minors have been pushing, with little success, for the major leagues to assume an even greater share of the costs. It was primarily for reasons of economy that Smith first drafted his plan.

He has proposed establishment of four or five leagues within a confined geographical area (Florida or Arizona), with retention of Triple-A ball in the "best" 24 minor league cities. The circuits within the complex would serve much the same purpose as current Class-A and Double-A leagues: As a player developed his skills, he would move up the ladder.

* * *

Smith feels his solution is a logical one, what with rising costs, substandard playing conditions in many parks and the constant shifting of franchises by the major league affiliates.

Minor league operators, almost to a man, see the idea as the ultimate Doomsday Machine. Television and major league expansion have robbed them of a portion of previous revenue, they say, and the complex would be the final straw.

Smith doesn't disagree entirely, but says the savings realized would justify the revamping, which would be accomplished at a gradual pace beginning at the rookie level.

With five clubs in Sarasota and three in Bradenton, the Gulf Coast League would seem to be a logical testing ground for the theory, since its operational concept isn't too far from what Smith has in mind.

And limited experimentation is a must. The minors have too much to lose—including their identity as baseball's grass roots at a time when the game can ill afford to break off such contact—for Smith's plan to be implemented hastily.

As Kansas City director of player development Lou Gorman put it, "Once we agree on this course of action, the concept of player development as we know it may be altered irrevocably. The parks we pull out of will go the way of all progress and be torn down for shopping center space. And if the player development program is not enhanced by the move, it will be difficult to return to the present arrangement."

* * *

Minor league operators claim player incentive would suffer in a complex arrangement, since the games would be played before virtually empty stands. However, some of those operators face the very same problem in their own cities.

There are other sticky wickets, particularly in A and Double-A cities. Stadium and field maintenance, for which the minor league club receives no subsidy, are items which demand constant attention—and money. The necessary funds too often are lacking, forcing the operator to borrow heavily to maintain his plant or to pinch pennies and hope that his paying customers can ignore the broken seats and peeling paint while watching outfielders try to pick up the flight of baseballs under lights barely adequate for a softball diamond.

Gorman, and others, contend that baseball can go over solidly in minor league cities—if the right people are merchandising the product.

But too many minor league general managers are content to sit in their offices while wailing about poor attendance when adroit promotion and a little shoe leather could mean the difference between finishing in the red or in the black.

But fixing the blame for minor league baseball's predicament is not the point here. Where the minors go next year, and the next, and 10 years from now, is.

The Houston executive has devoted considerable time and thought to his innovative complex idea.

Hopefully, the major-minor committee will be as thorough in its search for alternatives—via a redrawn player development contract—which will preserve, or even enhance the growth of, the minor leagues as we know them today.



we believe...

By C. C. JOHNSON SPINK
Editor and Publisher

Colleges Have Paper Champ

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—Of all the major intercollegiate sports, football is the only one that does not produce a true national champion. We do get a mythical champion based on wire service ratings, but the issue is unsettled on the field, where the winner ought to be determined.

The National Collegiate Athletic Association News took up the subject of "To Play Off or Not to Play Off" in its latest issue, presenting both sides of the question in articles by faculty athletic representative William A. Miller, Jr., of North Texas State and athletic director Bob Woodruff of Tennessee.

Woodruff, a former coach, opposed the playoffs on various grounds, including the academic conflict that would result from a lengthened schedule, the extra burden imposed on the players, the mechanical difficulties of setting up a postseason series and the effect on present bowl games.

"A national championship series would undoubtedly take the edge off these traditional (bowl) games," he said, "to the extent that many of them would die from lack of interest. The bowls have done too much for college football to be repaid in that manner."

Miller, on the other hand, appeared to be an advocate of letting the big get bigger.

Challenges for Super Schools

"There has been some talk of a few 'super' schools bolting the NCAA and forming a new super alliance," he said. "How many would that be? No one knows for sure, but I suspect it would be the same 12 to 15 schools that appear on national television each year."

"These 'super' schools should not be penalized for their greatness, but rather a greater number of other schools should be given a chance to challenge them and test their own achievement capability."

"The heart and soul of intercollegiate football is competition. Rather than restrict major competitive pro-

grams, let us broaden the base. . . . Provisions should be made that would enable all major schools, committed to major competitive programs, to pursue an earned national championship."

Miller proposed that the winners of the recognized major conferences qualify for the playoffs, along with four major independents, making up a field of 16. The first-round games would be scheduled for regional locations, cutting down travel expenses and building upon natural rivalries. The quarterfinals, semifinals and final all would be concluded by January 1, using already existing bowl sites for the games on a rotating basis.

"The championship game would take on the same importance as the pros' Super Bowl," Miller said in advocating his proposal.

Season Would Be Stretched

Woodruff objected that a playoff plan, such as proposed by Miller, would stretch the season out to as many as 15 games for the two finalists in the national championship series.

"A 10-game or 11-game schedule is grueling enough for a boy whose first responsibility is to achieve success in the classroom," he declared. "Even professional players complain about the length of the season as being mentally and physically exhausting. Keep in mind that with the pros, football is a full-time occupation, not an extracurricular activity to be fitted into an academic schedule."

Woodruff noted that Tennesseans still argue that the Vols' great 1938 football team, which beat Oklahoma in the Orange Bowl, 17-0, could have defeated every rival in the country.

"I'm sure glad we didn't find out," Woodruff said, "because I played on that team and as a player I know that one postseason game is enough!"

young



ideas

By DICK YOUNG

The Lip Likes Competition

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Leo Durocher, who picked up Rick Monday and Jose Cardenal for the Cubs in Super-swap Week at Phoenix, says one will play right, the other center, and he'll let them fight it out in camp. Leo always likes a bit of competition, even if contrived, just to keep the boys interested in their work. . . . Dave Bristol and Billy Martin are buddy-buddy—when Detroit is not playing Milwaukee. It's not uncommon for one to call the other and exchange scouting information. The young sharpies are pooling their knowledge to out-think the older managers. . . . Walt Alston now has two potential managers looking over his shoulder, Maury Wills and Frank Robinson, and he couldn't care less.

It must have been a bit embarrassing to Bob Ruhl, the Reds' fine young publicity chief, to announce that the winner of Cincy's MVP award for 1971 is Lee May, who no longer is with the club. Trading May was a gutsy move by General Manager Bob Howsam, who bought Manager Sparky Anderson's overall blueprint calling for speed over power. The key to the deal with Houston, much-criticized, was Anderson's conviction that Tony Perez, unable to handle third base on Astro-Turf, had to be moved to first base. Therefore, May had to be moved off first to make room.

Soap-Boxing on Super Bowl

Pressure on the Lords of Football to lift the Super Bowl TV blackout covering a 75-mile radius of the game's site only serves to push them toward pay-TV, where nobody will get it for free. Must 99 percent of this nation be jeopardized by the dog-in-the-manger attitude of a soap-boxing few?

I can't buy the story that the Lions' collapse is traceable to the death of Chuck Hughes. That's a maudlin copout. They just lacked desire. Maybe they missed Alex Karras after all, or the Karras spirit. You watch incredibly inept workmanship by such players as the football Cardinals (a seven-foot punt, a wild snap from center, dropped passes by wide-open receivers, simple handoffs that were fumbled, sloppy tackles that were broken) and you ask how can these have the gall to complain about anything. They should be grateful (and this goes for other NFL teams, too) that they are considered big leaguers. The owners' association should complain to the players' association about its overpaid members not putting out.

Walt Michaels would make an Alex Webster-type head coach for his profound technical savvy, plus earthy rapport with players. . . . Many NFL talent-appraisers, in-

cluding Jim Trimble of the Giants, rate Larry Jacobson, Nebraska tackle, over Notre Dame's Walt Patulski when talking about defensive linemen. . . . I have to smile when I think of the number of times Howard Cosell used to put the knock on Lindsey Nelson, Curt Gowdy, Phil Rizzuto and other game-action announcers, calling them shills for the product. And who turned out to be the biggest shill of all? None other than sweet Howard himself, on the Monday night football series, where everything network-related was "great, just great!"

First Base Best for Aaron

I don't hold much hope for Paul Richards' desire to have Hank Aaron agree to play third base, and that's why the Mets still might land Orlando Cepeda. Cholly Dressen, managing the Braves in 1960, tried to make a center fielder of Hank, but Aaron wouldn't budge from right field. Henry won't want any part of those bullet-bouncers skipping off the ersatz grass at third. He's entitled to a nice, semi-retirement at first base, swinging toward 715 home runs. That makes Cepeda available to the Mets this spring.

Interior linemen rather than quarterbacks will feature the NFL draft this time. . . . The reason the Angels delayed so long in naming Del Rice manager is that new General Manager Harry Dalton was seriously debating giving the job to Bobby Winkles, the Arizona State University wonder-worker who eventually was hired as an Angel coach. Dalton eventually concluded that the unprecedented leap from campus to majors would be too great a gamble.

Duane Thomas, The Sphinx, is developing into another Alex Johnson case: lots of talent but explosively introverted. They may have to put Thomas on a couch, but they'll have to tackle him first. . . . Jerry Colangelo, general manager of the NBA Suns, can watch his Phoenix club in action against Atlanta, and say to himself, "There are three men on the floor that I played college ball against—Siegfried, Bellamy and Silas." . . . The misoriented Suns got a shabby deal in the NBA. They have one of the best teams in the loop, but they won't make the playoffs because of a geographic mutation. They're stuck in the Midwest Division and are destined to finish behind the Bucks and the Bulls forevermore. Now that Houston is in the league, a switch of the Suns to the Pacific sector would seem reasonable. . . . Those two years of spending money that Tex Schramm sent Roger Staubach while the Dallas quarterback was in the Navy surely are paying off.

Cesare and Gump—Odd Couple Guarding Goal

By DAN STONEKING

TWIN CITIES, Minn. — All this time you thought the odd couple was either a popular television show or Nixon and Agnew or maybe Jackie and Aristotle.

Wrong.

The odd couple—at least around the frosty hinterlands of Minnesota—is Cesare Maniago and Gump Worsley, the 1-2 goaltending punch which has helped blast the North Stars into a contender's role in the National Hockey League's West Division.

"The two of us must look like a Mutt and Jeff act," jokes Worsley.

Maniago is 6-3 and 185 pounds. If you tabbed him an athlete, it would be as a basketball player because of his lean and lanky frame.

Gump's center of gravity is considerably lower. He is 5-6, 180. Gump's appearance has been described as that of an unemployed comedian and an unfrocked butcher who got mixed up in the local broomball game.

Maniago is 32, on the threshold of the four or five-year period most NHL experts figure as a goaltender's best. Worsley is at hockey's carpet-slipper age of 42.

Worsley Rejects Mask

Maniago, in keeping with the current fashion of most NHL goalies, wears a mask. Gump, in his 20th season, is still a mask holdout. "My face is my mask," he jokes. "I tried one once and every time a shot came at me, I ducked."

Maniago is the introspective type. Although he can be drawn into a lively conversation at the right time and place, he remains reserved. Gump is the free spirit, expounding his opinions on any subject, any place, any time. His talent with words lends itself to his job as North Star player representative.

Yet for all the differences, the North Stars' odd couple has much in common.

Most important, they have shared center stage in a defensive show which is getting as many raves around Minnesota as the Purple People Eaters of the football Vikings.

Through the first 32 games of the 78-game season, Cesare and Gump anchored Minnesota to a defensively

stingy record, second only to that of the Chicago Black Hawks. In that span, their combined goals-against average was a neat 1.88.

The performances of Worsley and Maniago included a streak of seven games in which the opposition managed to slip only one puck per contest into the Minnesota goal.

That run of stinginess started against the New York Rangers, the NHL's hottest-shooting hombres, who were averaging nearly five goals per game until Minnesota held them to a single counter. (Just to prove they still had it, the Rangers scored 12 goals against Oakland the next night and rifled in eight the following game against St. Louis.)

Two Shutouts for Cesare

The two goalies' records broke down this way:

Maniago played in 18 games, gave up 36 goals for an average of 2.02. He had two shutouts and a won-lost record of 11-6-0. Gump started 15 times, had 24 goals-against for a 1.69 mark while earning one shutout. He was 8-3-4.

Both goalies qualify for the title of Mr. Modesty.

"It has been like a picnic back there," said Worsley.

"The forwards are forechecking and back-checking and the defensemen rarely get caught."

"We are seeing only 26 or 27 shots per game (actually the opposition was averaging 29 shots per contest against Minnesota)," said Maniago. "It's nothing like it was when I first came to Minnesota. There were too many of those 40 and 45-shot nights. I'd make 40 saves and we'd still get beat, 5-4."

Cesare is one of two Minnesota originals from the expansion draft five years ago (the other is high-scoring right winger Bill Goldsworthy).

Two years ago, Maniago was seriously considering retiring. He told General Manager Wren Blair of his intentions.

Although Maniago wouldn't specify his reason, it was apparent that he was fed up with being a constant target as the goalie of a weak defensive team.

That started to change two years



Cesare Maniago, Minus Mask, Surveys the Rink From the North Stars' Net.

ago with the acquisition of young defensemen Tom Reid and Barry Gibbs and continued last season with the addition of experienced hands like Ted Harris (grabbed in a trade from Montreal) and Doug Mohns (from Chicago).

"Our defensemen are second to nobody in this league," Worsley insisted.

Gump was actually in a state of semi-retirement when the North Stars secured him near the end of the 1969-70 season. He had started the year with Montreal but jumped the club after a bumpy flight one night. "I've always been a bad

flier," said Worsley.

It all goes back to Gump's first flight in 1949 when he was still amateur hockey with New Haven. He looked out a window of the aircraft and spotted an engine on fire. That started to fray his nerves, which completely gave way two years ago.

When he was rested, the Canadiens suggested that he play himself into shape. Gump balked at that idea.

A Call From Blair

"I never figured to play hockey again," he said. Then Blair called him after getting permission from Montreal's Sam Pollock. Blair asked Gump to come to Minnesota and look around.

"Take a plane?" asked Gump.

"I don't care if you take a dog sled," said Blair.

Gump came, saw what he liked and climbed back into the barrel, as he called his job of facing NHL shooters.

The Stars were struggling at the time of Worsley's arrival. He helped them make the playoff on the next-to-last day of the season with a 1-0 shutout of Philadelphia.

It was the start of a partnership between Worsley and Maniago, which is exactly the way they both describe their two-goalie setup.

There's No Jealousy

"If we were both a couple of young guys, we might be at each other's throats wanting to play more," said Maniago. But Cesare never has had any ambition to be an ironman goalie, although he was forced into that role in the North Stars' first three NHL seasons.

"Around 50 games is just about right," said Maniago. "You start to play in more than that and you begin to run into the back-to-back thing. I can't eat on the day of a game, and if you go a couple of days like that, you start to run into trouble after a while."

Last season, Gump's first full one with the North Stars, Minnesota employed three goalies. That didn't give any of the threesome the right amount of work, according to Coach

Jack Gordon. He spelled both Worsley and Maniago with 21-year-old Gilles Gilbert, a fellow with whom Minnesota has placed its goaltending hopes for the future.

Gump's Salary Slashed

The 1970-71 season proved to be Maniago's best from a goals-against standpoint. He had a 2.69 average with five shutouts. While Gump's mark was a respectable 2.49, he won only four of the 24 games he played and tied eight others.

So Blair trimmed his salary from last year's generous \$37,500 plus bonus a bit and gave Gump additional incentives. He would collect \$1,000 per victory, \$500 per tie.

Worsley still gets nervous on those flights, and the two handkerchiefs he brings aboard to keep his hands semi-dry must be wrung out when the wheels touch the ground again.

But right now he, Maniago and the rest of the North Stars are flying high.

Dryden Gets Third Assist To Enter Record Book

MONTREAL, Que.—Ken Dryden has made the record book in his first full season in the National Hockey League.

The Montreal Canadiens' 24-year-old goalie tied a record when he was credited with his third assist of the season in Montreal's 3-1 triumph over the Los Angeles Kings December 15. The mark was first achieved by Bernie Parent, then with Philadelphia, in 1969-70.

"I was very nervous going for the record," cracked Dryden, Most Valuable Player of last season's Stanley Cup play.

Goalies Gilles Villemure of the New York Rangers and Chicago's Tony Esposito also got into the scoring act the same night Dryden made the record book. Villemure earned the first assist of his NHL career and Esposito collected his fourth career point.



Gump Worsley Airs a Few Opinions to Two Officials After a Questionable Decision.



NHL west

By DAN STONEKING

Hawks Own North Stars

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. — Their voices were blurred with too much ale from the land of sky blue waters. Nonetheless, the Black Hawk Standbys, that nomadic booster group which occasionally follows the Chicago team around the National Hockey League circuit, sang an understandable message.

Sitting in section No. 6 of Metropolitan Sports Center where they had migrated to watch the Hawks tangle with the Minnesota North Stars, the Standbys' harmonized in "good-bye, North Stars, we are glad to see you go."

The less-than-melodious refrain accompanied the closing seconds of Chicago's 4-1 victory against the North Stars. The triumph gave the Hawks a six-point edge over Minnesota for first place in the NHL West Division.

It was the third meeting of a scheduled six between the Stars and Hawks and Chicago has claimed all three. It is a thing that will have to be reversed if Minnesota seriously is to consider wresting the Hawks' West title away.

"We do things against Chicago that we don't do against the other teams," lamented Minnesota Coach Jack Gordon. It was an indirect reference to Minnesota assisting Chicago on three first-period goals.

Bobby Scores With Ease

Cliff Koroll ended a 14-game scoring drought when he fired in a shot off the skates of Minnesota's Dean Prentice. Then Pat Stapleton's shot hit North Star defenseman Ted Harris and bounced into the Minnesota goal. Finally, with the North Stars on a power play, the Minnesota defense parted like the waters of the Red Sea for Bobby Hull, who hammered a short-handed goal.

Hawk Coach Billy Reay disagreed, however, with the singing analysis of the Windy City fans.

"So we are six points ahead," said Reay. "Things can change so fast. Two weeks ago we were five points behind Minnesota and now we are six ahead. If we can, they can."

But in order for the North Stars to "do it," they must win the head-to-head matches with Chicago. A year ago, the Hawks were exactly the same, six ahead of St. Louis before Chicago polished off the second-place Blues by a 20-point margin.

Just one week before, the clubs held a showdown in the Chicago Stadium and the North Stars came away from the shootout like the Clanton Brothers after the O. K. Corral and the British after Dunkirk.

Worsley Bombed

Chicago scored five first-period goals in a 5-3 victory, including four in the first dozen minutes which sent starting goalie Gump Worsley to the shower. It was only the second time in his 19 years as an NHL goalie that Worsley was asked to retreat while under fire.

"The other time was against Detroit when I was still with Montreal," recalled Worsley, painfully. "I was mad that night. Threw my stick at Toe (Toe Blake, then Canadiens' coach), then my gloves and sat on the bench for the rest of the game and cussed him out."

Dennis Hull scored two of these first-period salvos for the Black Hawks. It was his 26th career two-goal night, although the younger Hull never has collected a three-goal hat trick. "I just can't seem to get the third one," he said. (Brother Bobby makes up for that as his 27 hat tricks is an all-time NHL record.)

"I was impressed with the North Stars until tonight," said the always

outspoken Pit Martin, who also scored one of the goals.

"I don't see now what they've (Minnesota) got going for them which has kept them up there. They weren't skating, weren't coming back with the play. It could have been a lot worse."

A Genuine Feud

CROSS CHECKS: Unlike most hockey grudge matches, the personal war between Philadelphia's Rick Foley and New York's Glen Sather lived up to its advance billing. When the two players got together in New York's Madison Square Garden last week, it was a fight which would have rivaled any that MSG boxing promoter Terry Brenner ever staged.

The trouble started brewing two weeks ago when Sather hit Foley on the head with his stick after the Philly defenseman spit at Ranger General Manager-Coach Emile Francis. "I'll get Sather for that, even if it takes all year," vowed Foley. It took six days.

When hostilities broke out between Ranger Pete Stemkowski and Philly Barry Ashbee, Foley and Sather staged the main event. It lasted nearly five minutes (a 15-round) by hockey standards) and was little of a traditional sweater pulling.

"I didn't even know he (Sather) was on the ice until he hit me again with the stick," said Foley. This time the target was Foley's mid-section.

"Sather told me afterward that I wasn't such a bad guy, just playing for the wrong team," said Foley. Is the vendetta settled? "Nope," said Foley.

"I'll get him again. I don't think you have to use your stick to fight in this game."

Foley Eyes Penalty Mark

The five-minute fighting penalty and 10-minute misconduct gave Foley 101 minutes for the season. He is definitely within range of Chicago's Keith Magnuson's single season record of 291 minutes.

Simon Nolet returned to the Flyers' lineup after sitting out two weeks with a shoulder injury. In his absence, Jimmy Johnson had tied Nolet as the club's top scorer.

"We had five 20-goal scorers last year, but this season we'll be lucky if one guy gets that many," lamented Keith Allen, Flyer GM.



DENNIS HULL . . . Fires two-goal barrage.

St. Louis will not name a captain to replace Jim Roberts. The versatile Blues' captain was traded to the Canadiens for young Phil Roberto.

Sid Salomon, III, Blues' vice-president, said the deal was strictly a birth certificate swap. "Roberts is 32-years-old and Roberto is 23," said Salomon.

There is a good possibility defenseman Bobby Plager will need an operation to remove a calcified hematoma in his groin and will be out of action for the rest of the season.

The Blues' defense corps already has been weakened by the loss of Noel Picard, who broke his ankle in November. It is unlikely he will be available to play again this season.

Hull Growing Hair

Bobby Hull's hair transplants last summer are beginning to reap dividends. Chicago's Golden Jet has signed to do some shampoo commercials.

California's Gerry Pinder has been playing well enough to earn a spot on the West Division All-Star team. Pinder, despite missing four games, had 10 goals and 17 assists in 29 games, putting him one point behind Bobby Sheehan as the Golden Seals' leading scorer. If he makes the All-Star team, he will be re-united with West Coach Billy Reay of Chicago. That will make interesting copy since it was Pinder's blasts at Reay last spring which got him in the doghouse and caused him to be traded to the Seals.

California continued to be the most successful expansion team against Boston when they beat the Bruins, 4-2. "They all get a funny look on their faces in the dressing room before a game with Boston," said Coach Vic Stasiuk. "If we played every game like we play against the Bruins, we would be in first place by a mile." Earlier this year, the Seals shut out the Bruins in Boston.

Defenseman Tim Horton rejoined the Pittsburgh Penguins last weekend after sitting out for seven weeks with an ankle injury. "Just in time," said Coach Red Kelly, referring to the Penguins' home-and-home series with Boston.

Pittsburgh continued to have problems with Buffalo. In eight games, the Penguins never have whipped the Sabres.

Burrows Tough Defenseman

Kelly has been beating the drum for Penguin defenseman Dave Burrows, drafted from the Chicago organization last summer. "When everybody gets around to picking the All-Star team, I hope they give him a little consideration," said Kelly. "He doesn't get a lot of points, but he's a defensive player among the best." Burrows was MVP at Dallas, the Black Hawks' farm club last season.

Minnesota lost the services of Jude Drouin, THE SPORTING NEWS West Division Rookie of the Year last season for two weeks with a shoulder separation. Gordon Labossiere was called up from Cleveland to take Drouin's place and responded with two goals and two assists in two games.

In an effort to make Los Angeles more aggressive, the Kings swapped defenseman Larry Hillman and winger Mike Byers to Buffalo for defenseman Doug Barrie. The Kings also received minor league defenseman Mike Keeler.

Meanwhile, L. A. continued at a record-breaking pace. If present trends continue, the Kings would set NHL records for wins (fewest) losses (most) and ties (fewest). Projecting the Kings' start through November puts them with a finishing mark of 14-61-3.



BOBBY HULL scores against Dave Dryden in the Black Hawks' 2-1 victory over Buffalo, December 15.

NHL summaries

GAMES OF TUESDAY, DEC. 14

TORONTO AT ST. LOUIS
Toronto 3 1 0-4
St. Louis 1 0 1-2

FIRST PERIOD: 1. Tor.—Ellis 11 (Ullman, Dorey); 2. St. L.—Dupont 1 (unassisted); 3. Tor.—Harrison 9 (Selwood, Dorey); 15:14; 4. Tor.—Keon 9 (Monahan) 17:39.

SECOND PERIOD: 5. Tor.—Henderson 17 (Trottier, Ley) 19:49.

THIRD PERIOD: 6. St. L.—Crisp 5 (B. Plager, Bordeleau) 8:42.

SHOTS: Tor. on McLeod and McDuffe 11, 12, 8-31; St. L. on Plante and Parent 5, 13, 13-31. A—17,906.

DETROIT AT VANCOUVER
Detroit 0 2 2-4
Vancouver 0 1 2-3

FIRST PERIOD: No scoring.

SECOND PERIOD: 1. Van.—Tallon 7 (Balon, Boudrias) 11:56; 2. Det.—Redmond 8 (Karvel, Delvecchio) 13:01; 3. Det.—Redmond 9 (Delvecchio, Karlander) 13:25.

THIRD PERIOD: 4. Van.—Tallon 8 (Boudrias, Schmutz) 5:24; 5. Det.—Bergman 2 (Delvecchio, Karlander) 6:23; 6. Det.—Karlander 7 (Delvecchio, Redmond) 14:44; 7. Van.—Balon 9 (Guevremont) 16:02.

SHOTS: Det. on Gardner 6, 13, 9-28; Van on Daley 9, 6, 10-25. A—15,570.

ST. LOUIS AT MINNESOTA
St. Louis 0 0 1-1
Minnesota 2 2 0-4

FIRST PERIOD: 1. Minn.—Prentice 11 (Cameron, Gibbs) 14:25; 2. Minn.—Nanne 9 (Grant, Oliver) 19:37.

SECOND PERIOD: 3. Minn.—Oliver 12 (Goldsorthy, Grant) 1:15; 4. Minn.—Oliver 13 (Name, Harris) 13:45.

THIRD PERIOD: 5. St. L.—Bordeleau 8 (Robert, Shires) 8:12.

SHOTS: St. L. on Worsley 7, 10, 13-30; Minn on McDuffe 21, 12, 11-44. A—15,073.

PITTSBURGH AT TORONTO
Pittsburgh 0 2 0-2
Toronto 1 1 1-3

FIRST PERIOD: 1. Tor.—Ellis 12 (Dorey, Selwood) 11:19.

SECOND PERIOD: 2. Tor.—Keon 19 (Bain, Monahan) 0:46; 3. Pitts.—Leiter 10 (Schock) 13:41; 4. Pitts.—Robert 6 (Stewart, Schinkel) 19:43.

THIRD PERIOD: 5. Tor.—Henderson 18 (Ullman, Ellis) 13:50.

SHOTS: Pitts. on Parent 8, 16, 8-32; Tor. on Edwards 11, 13, 6-30. A—16,324.

GAMES OF THURSDAY, DEC. 16

PHILADELPHIA AT NEW YORK
Philadelphia 1 1 0-2
New York 1 4 1-6

FIRST PERIOD: 1. N.Y.—Park 11 (Roussau, Gilbert) 7:45; 2. Phila.—Johnson 11 (Gendron, Foley) 12:43.

SECOND PERIOD: 3. Phila.—Sarrazin 1 (Kelly) 9:45; 5. N.Y.—Fairbairn 7 (Seiling) 13:03; 6. N.Y.—Irvine 7 (Fairbairn, Park) 16:10; 7. N.Y.—Ratele 18 (Seiling, Villemure) 17:31.

THIRD PERIOD: 8. N.Y.—Tkaczuk 7 (Fairbairn) 1:36.

SHOTS: Phila. on Villemure 4, 5, 6-15; N.Y. on Favell and Gamble 16, 23, 12-51. A—17,250.

BUFFALO AT CHICAGO
Buffalo 0 1 0-1
Chicago 1 1 0-2

FIRST PERIOD: 1. Chi.—B. Hull 18 (P. Martin) 4:07.

SECOND PERIOD: 2. Chi.—B. Hull 19 (Esposito) 15:35; 3. Buff.—Evans 3 (Ramsay, Atkinson) 18:27.

THIRD PERIOD: No scoring.

SHOTS: Buff. on Esposito 4, 4, 11-19; Chi. on Dryden 6, 7, 6-19. A—16,666.

NHL statistics

THROUGH GAMES OF DECEMBER 19

EAST DIVISION

Club	W.	L.	T.	Pts.	GF.	GA.
New York	21	5	6	48	144	76
Boston	21	6	3	45	124	70
Montreal	19	4	7	45	116	67
Toronto	15	9	8	38	96	85
Detroit	10	16	6	26	86	106
Vancouver	8	20	4	20	73	115
Buffalo	7	21	6	20	86	131

WEST DIVISION

Club	W.	L.	T.	Pts.	GF.	GA.
Chicago	23	7	3	49	105	56
Minnesota	19	9	4	27	42	89
California	10	16	7	25	99	130
Philadelphia	10	16	5	25	68	94
Pittsburgh	10	18	5	25	84	99
St. Louis	9	19	5	23	86	109
Los Angeles	7	23	1	15	65	124

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What It's Like to Be Wife of a Hockey Coach

By LEE CARROLL

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — "My life's no different from any other housewife," insists Carol Lee McCreary, wife of the coach of the St. Louis Blues.

"I change the baby's diapers, clean the toilet bowl and chauffeur the kids. Isn't that what every housewife does?"

True, in certain respects, but after Carol begins talking about herself and family, several life-style differences emerge.

How many homemakers, for instance, have lived in 12 different cities during 15 years of married life?

How many of them must stoically face up to the prospects of losing a son to hockey at age 14? Yet this is what will face Carol three years from now, when son Billy leaves the family nest and returns to Carol's hometown of Guelph, Ont., for Junior A hockey training.

Billy will follow in the footsteps of his father, Bill, and his uncle Keith at Guelph.

"I don't see how Bill's mother could bear to give up two sons to hockey, while they were still in their teens," says Carol. You know that

she's thinking about Billy when she says it.

How many housewives could wriggle into the same sized skirt today as when they were in high school? Yet Mrs. McCreary still wears the same Nat Gordon plaid kilts she wore when she first met Bill.

How many wives have two families, in addition to their own and their in-laws? Carol has her own family, plus in-laws, plus the close-knit family of hockey-playing breadwinners.

High School Sweethearts

There's one thing Carol does have in common with several wives. She married her childhood sweetheart.

Unlike most wives, however, she's had a lifelong love for hockey.

How could it be otherwise? Hockey brought Carol and Bill together in their high school days when he moved to Guelph to play hockey with the intent of becoming a professional player. Guelph, 50 miles southwest of Toronto, is about 200 miles from Sundridge, Bill's hometown.

Carol was only 15 when she met

Bill. She excelled in track and field events, diving and swimming. Hockey playing was not her bag, because Carol never really enjoyed skating.

Flexibility has kept the diminutive Mrs. McCreary stable in a sports-minded, nomad family.

Every year for many years, the McCrearys have lived at three different locations, two of them in Canada. It's the type of life other homemakers might say they admire, but faced with the prospect of packing and moving three times every year, how many would actually want it?

Baby Shannon, 10½ months, has altered this sequence of moving events in the McCreary family. So has Bill's new job as coach of the Blues.

Not many women would want to be under the pressures borne by Mrs. McCreary.

Silence After a Defeat

"Bill never talks after his team loses a game," says Carol, "but it was the same way years ago when he played hockey in Guelph. You learn to live with the 'great silence' until your husband cools down and everything gets back to normal again."

Carol considers herself lucky, because Bill is a "well-balanced type" and doesn't blow his cool too often.

One thing which always has been a difficult adjustment for her, however, comes when Bill is traded to another team.

An original Blues player, Bill was a left winger in St. Louis for four years while his brother Keith played left wing for Pittsburgh. Their youngest sister, Betty, married Ron Attwell, who played for the Blues and was traded to New York. He retired two years ago and operates a laundromat in Sundridge.

Even though the McCrearys have made several moves, and he's been a player-coach with Omaha and Houston, and a coach with Denver, Carol always has felt at home because of the close relationship among hockey players' families.

His latest move, back to St. Louis in November, was a homecoming for them.

They leased a suburban house in west St. Louis County formerly

occupied by their friend, Jean-Guy Talbot, a one-time player for the Blues. Talbot moved to Denver as coach and general manager, so the families exchanged houses.

The McCrearys are thinking of building a house in St. Louis, but

hockey families are understandably wary of permanent housing arrangements.

The nomad factor separates the McCrearys from the Joneses and forces Carol to admit that being the wife of a hockey man is different.



Mrs. Billy McCreary . . . 12 Different Homes in 15 Years.



MRS. McCREARY takes in the Blues action from a box adjoining the team bench.

A Real Brother Act—Family of Three Sportscasters

By STAN FISCHLER

NEW YORK, N. Y. — Too bad there isn't a record book for broadcasting. If there was, the Albert brothers—Marv, Al and Steve—would be in it under the heading "most members of one family under the age of 30 doing professional sportscasting."

That precisely is the case with the Alberts. Marv, the elder statesman of the clan at 28, handles radio play-by-play for the New York Rangers and New York Knicks as well as hosting a nightly one-hour show called "Sportsline" on WNBC radio, for which he is sports director. He also is host of a National Hockey League weekly TV show.



Al Albert

Al, who is 24, does play-by-play for the New York Nets of the American Basketball Association while holding down the assistant sports directorship at radio station WHN.

Student and Announcer

The rookie in the family, 21-year-old Steve, although still a student at Kent State, will be handling some play-by-play of the Springfield Kings' road games in the American Hockey League. Steve also launched the ice hockey program at Kent State last year, where he still handles radio play-by-play.

This unique triumvirate of the air didn't get into broadcasting by accident. A native of Brooklyn, Marv, the eldest, naturally was the first to make a name for himself, first by doing tapes of Brooklyn Dodgers' games at Ebbets Field. Then he graduated to baseball play-by-play and a disk jockey job in Syracuse. Eventually he landed permanently in New York during the 1965-66 season when he began doing Ranger games. The Knicks' job came two years later.

By this time, the younger Alberts indicated enough interest in the business for Marv to begin formally training Al and Steve. Sibling rivalry was conspicuous by its absence.

"We had a 'press' table in the den of our house," said Al, "with a television set. First we'd turn off the sound of the baseball game on TV and Marv would announce and keep score. I'd handle the loose ends, the crowd record and the crack of the bat. Eventually, I took over the announcing."

"At first Steve watched, then he moved along the progression the way Marv and I did."

Luckily, their parents, Max and Alida Albert, never kicked about the messy den and did plenty to encourage them.

Unlike Marv, Al suffered a slight detour in his climb to the majors.



Marv Albert

He decided he wanted to become a professional goaltender and even had a successful tryout with the Rangers in 1968. But an Army draft call intervened and by the time he completed his tour of duty, he was considered too "old" for NHL consideration.

He did, however, play several International League games as goaltender for the Toledo Hornets and eventually became their play-by-play announcer. He got the Nets' job last fall.

A Matter of Teamwork

Meanwhile, Marv had emerged as one of the most prolific and respected broadcasters in the New York area. It could have inspired a destructive competition between the two but hasn't.

"The two of us—and now the three of us—have been more like a team than competitors," said Al. "When I was breaking in, I'd send my tapes to Marv and he'd criticize them—severely but fairly. Now that Steve is breaking in, he sends his tapes to Marv and me. We rate him as critically as possible. Every so often the three of us get together and discuss the pros and cons of other guys in the business."

None of the Alberts is Howard Cosellian in his approach. However, Marv is objective to a fault and has developed a wide and devoted following both on the air and in print. His book, "Krazy About the Knicks," adorns the shelves of local bookstores.

"The men who had the most profound influence on me," said Marv, "were Marty Glickman and Vin Scully, not to mention Red Barber when I was growing up as a Dodger fan. But it was Marty who gave me

(Continued on Page 16, Column 1)



Steve Albert

NHL summaries

(Continued From Page 14)

(Cournoyer) 9:03; 6. Mont.—Lafleur 11 (Le-maire) 17:20; 7. Van.—Maki 8 (Schmaltz, Gueremont) 19:45.

THIRD PERIOD: 8. Mont.—Lafleur 12 (Le-maire, F. Mahovlich) 4:52.

SHOTS: Mont. on Gardner 12, 13, 8—33; Van. on Dryden 19, 11, 7—37. A—15,570.

DETROIT AT CALIFORNIA

Detroit	0	2	1—3
California	1	1	1—3

FIRST PERIOD: 1. Calif.—Ferguson 10 (Mc-Kechnie, Shmyr) 1:43.

SECOND PERIOD: 2. Calif.—Pinder 10 (Sheehan, Boldirev) 7:46; 3. Det.—Berenson 10 (Harris, Rocheft) 9:54; 4. Det.—M. Redmond 10 (L. Johnston) 15:30.

THIRD PERIOD: 5. Calif.—Hickey 8 (Marshall, Carleton) 10:05; 6. Det.—Libett 10 (Dionne, Collins) 15:35.

SHOTS: Det. on Meloche 4, 17, 8—29; Calif. on Smith 6, 7, 15—28. A—4,593.

GAMES OF SATURDAY, DEC. 18

BUFFALO AT TORONTO

Buffalo	0	1	0—1
Toronto	1	4	3—8

FIRST PERIOD: 1. Tor.—Keon 11 (Marshall) 4:49.

SECOND PERIOD: 2. Tor.—Keon 12 (Mac-Millan, Ley) 1:07; 3. Buff.—Atkinson 3 (Hamilton, Meehan) 6:05; 4. Tor.—Monahan 5 (un-assisted) 11:24; 5. Tor.—Marshall 2 (Dupere, Trottier) 14:08; 6. Tor.—Henderson 19 (Ullman, Parent) 7:11.

THIRD PERIOD: 7. Tor.—Trottier 5 (Marshall, Pelyk) 4:06; 8. Tor.—Dupere 4 (Spencer) 5:10; 9. Tor.—Dupere 5 (Keon, Monahan) 14:28.



MINNESOTA GOALIE Gump Worsley nearly fills the mouth of the net as he blocks a shot by Vic Hadfield during the North Stars' 1-1 tie with New York December 19.

Three Brothers—Each Handles Sports Mike

(Continued From Page 15)

the first break, bringing me in from Syracuse as his writer and then letting me sit in for him doing one Ranger game and a couple of Knick games back in 1963."

Talking about his work, Marv tends to deflect his thoughts to his brothers' achievements.

"I get more of a kick out of what they're doing," said Marv, "than some of the things I'm doing. Not that I feel like a father to them, but we always have worked closely, whether it was playing hockey together or basketball."

"I think it was just circumstantial the way things turned out for us in broadcasting. We all seemed to grow up the same way with the same interests."

The standard question to Marv, not to mention Al and Steve, is: How do you become an announcer? If they had anything in common, both Marv and Steve were ball boys for the Knicks, but it took more than that.

It's Possible to Prepare

"It's a matter of timing and the breaks," said Marv, "but there is a way to prepare for it. When I worked as an office boy for the Dodgers, I brought my recorder along to Ebbets Field. Kids can go into the stands of any ballpark and do play-by-play on their own tape recorder, and that's what I suggest. You may not have the best vantage point but you'll have the feel of the real thing."

For a man who has reached the

top of his profession before age 30, Marv remains curiously refreshing and unpretentious.

"Maybe it isn't good to be satisfied," said Marv, "but I'm quite content doing two sports. It's an unreal feeling when I reflect on my childhood hopes and realize that I wanted to be the voice of the Knicks and Rangers and that's what I am today."

"What more could I want?"

From time to time, critics suggest that the Alberts have developed their own little monopoly on the sports broadcasting business. But Marv, Al and Steve point out that there are no more brothers coming along.

Besides, nobody in baseball complained about a monopoly when the three DiMaggio brothers were playing.

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Melvin Durslag

Laker Win Streak—an Incredible Feat

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—When you run a streak of 21 or more in a game such as pro basketball, you are accomplishing something very much out of the ordinary in sports.

Basketball, like baseball, is known for its problems. There is an item called balance and another called travel.

By comparison, the road situation in football is sweet. To play a Sunday game, a team departs on Friday afternoon, relaxes in a hotel and returns to its base immediately after the match.

The basketball guy is in and out of airports, playing a series of one-night stands. And it is pretty well established that the handicap of playing on the other man's grounds is greater in basketball than in any other sport.

So when you run hot, as the Los Angeles Lakers have, you tend to excite even the most sophisticated type of viewer, the kind who scarcely would pant at a stag show.

Now in his 12th year in this form of entertainment, Jerry West is as flabbergasted as the next guy over what the Lakers have done.

It all has been achieved, he says, with changes that seemed like lunacy at the time they were suggested.

It began with the conversion of basketball's most destructive force under the basket, Wilt Chamberlain, into a sort of playmaker.

You don't realize the immensity of this change until you think in terms, say, of Johnny Unitas being shifted to free safety.

The pride of Chamberlain had to be reckoned with, a fact West readily acknowledged.

With the retirement of Elgin Baylor, the coach tendered co-captaincy to Chamberlain and West, a decoration Jerry chose to yield to Wilt.

Under the circumstances, it seemed the thing to be doing. If Chamberlain was to drop from the public eye as a shooter, he deserved the recognition as a leader.

Sharman Installed a Running Game

The Laker streak took off from there, propelled by the fact that Bill Sharman, their coach, got a running game going that others weren't ready for.

Now 33, West isn't sure that he is ready for it, either, but it does have a redemptive feature.

As basketball's premier shooter, Jerry lived for years with defenders on his back.

They jostled him downcourt. They elbowed him. They leaned on him and they harassed him.

Now a runner under the Sharman system, West is able to escape his intimidators, but he is a tired man when he goes home at night.

For all the early pace of the Lakers this year, there is, of course, conjecture among many whether this team is yet as proficient as Milwaukee.

You ask West for a candid opinion, and he will tell you only that Milwaukee is "different."

"They don't balance their strength as we do," he says. "Their game is keyed mostly to one player."

He is referring, naturally, to Kareem Abdul Jabbar, who, for all we know, may be at war with India.

"That one player is a big asset," continues West. "He has size, and he has quickness and he isn't easy to stop. He is 60 percent of their offense."

Wilt Plays Role of Specialist

Rather than counter Jabbar by employing Chamberlain in a similar way, the Lakers have chosen to work him as a unique specialist, a blocker, a rebounder, a screener and a passer.

"Wilt is a remarkable physical specimen," West says. "He can adapt to any kind of game. And in what he is doing now, he is more valuable than one who makes 40 points."

Chamberlain always has resented criticism, particularly from Bill Russell, that he is not a team player.

It is Wilt's argument that he does in basketball what is considered most effective at the time.

Asked to flood the basket with dunk shots, he produced dunk shots. Now asked to try something else, he has acceded.

The Lakers have been an interesting operation this year. A winning streak such as theirs is not to be taken frivolously.



BILL SHARMAN

the first break, bringing me in from Syracuse as his writer and then letting me sit in for him doing one Ranger game and a couple of Knick games back in 1963."

Talking about his work, Marv tends to deflect his thoughts to his brothers' achievements.

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"I think it was just circumstantial the way things turned out for us in broadcasting. We all seemed to grow up the same way with the same interests."

Keep an Eye on Eagles—Team of Near Future

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—With the 14-game NFL regular season now history, the NFC East has emerged as one of the sport's most powerful divisions—in spite of the slips of the Cardinals and Giants.

St. Louis Coach Bob Hollway recently said the fraternity was "the toughest" in the NFC, citing the fact that both Dallas and Washington qualified for the playoffs.

And while the Cards and Giants took backward steps, make no mistake about it, the Eagles are to be reckoned with in the future . . . the near future.

After an 0-5 start, the Eagles were 5-7-1 entering their denouement against the Giants. They repeated an earlier victory over New York, and the Philadelphians have posted a 6-2-1 record down the stretch—which rivaled both Dallas and Washington for the period.

Khayat, Retzlaff Remain

So Coach Ed Khayat and G. M. Pete Retzlaff were rehired immediately after the Eagles beat the Giants, 41-28, in the season windup. The Eagles seem to have turned the corner. Add a couple of Grade A offensive players and they will merit the company of the top echelon.

If there is a fall guy in the Eagles' situation—and this is taking nothing away from Khayat's performance—it must be the jettisoned Jerry Williams, now an assistant with the Cleveland Browns.

Williams had a design for gradual

NFC eastern



By RICH KOSTER

improvement, building around a defense. He did. And it's that defense—populated by four No. 1 draft choices—that is making the Eagles formidable now.

"But it was that defense," lamented Williams recently, "which let me down. In those first two games, it played poorly. Now it's winning games for them. My defense.

"I'm not the least bit surprised at the way the Eagles are playing. I can't say much else because my friends are there" deserves the credit for a good job."

ST. LOUIS: The Cardinals were children of misfortune in 1971. Everything went wrong. A team that figured to be a contender was never even a pretender.

And the climax of the club's unhappy season came after the second

loss to the Eagles December 12 when Mac Lane, the Cards' top running back, ripped into Co-Owner Bill Bidwill verbally.

Lane admitted that he was playing out his option, used some ill-chosen descriptives on the man who pays his salary and then blamed Bidwill for all the team's troubles.

The following day, he apologized but was suspended for the final week of the season, without loss of pay. Bidwill and Coach Hollway made the judgment, and their decision was moderate, to say the least. Would you believe merciful?

Lane Probably Will Go

Lane's blast had violated a couple of general agreements in the collective bargaining contract between players and owners. A league official said that forfeiture of pay was almost automatic with suspension.

But Bidwill explained that Lane had played this season at 90 percent of his 1970 salary—because he was playing out his option—and that he was actually entitled to a raise, even though they had disagreed on the amount.

So Lane got off easy. And the club said it hoped to sign him before he becomes a free agent May 1. But the odds are that the fourth-year running back has played his last game for the Cardinals. To accept him back would be difficult, to pay him what he wants impossible. To trade him . . . likely.

WASHINGTON: A lot has been written and spoken this season about the relationship between the late



DUANE THOMAS, clutching a pass from Roger Staubach, leaves St. Louis lineman Bob Rowe behind as he heads for his third touchdown in the Cowboys' 31-12 victory.

Brian Piccolo and his Chicago Bears' teammate Gale Sayers. A black man and a white man being friends.

And Webster's comments:

"I want to come back for another year. I only coached two years before I got the head job and it's been a hard fight all the way. I learned a lot. I'm to the point where I'm more definite about things."

"I want to make the fans and my players happy. I feel I can do it."

P. S. Around mid-season, Alex was quoted as lamenting, "Sometimes I wonder if this is all worth it. I was probably better off as an assistant. At least, I can go back to my old job as a liquor salesman."

A Present From Jerry

"Jerry gave my daughter her first toy, a little toy lamb," Brig explains. "She still has it. It's her favorite toy. She's three now and she still goes to bed with it. It's beat up as all heck, but she wouldn't trade it for anything."

"When Jerry comes to our house, he's 'Uncle Jerry' to the kids."

While Smith was injured part of the season and not with the club, he would phone Owens on Saturday night "and we'd talk for hours."

Owens and Smith. It's no big thing. Just a little story about a black man and white man who get along.

NEW YORK: It was reported here last week that Alex Webster was a coach on the end of a plank with the Giants. Ooops!

Alex has been rehired. And so, the smart guys are saying, Fran Tarkenton is still the coach.

Webster got a one-year contract at about \$40,000, although he has not officially signed.

"As far as I'm concerned," said Giant Owner Wellington Mara, "Alex is formally signed right now. But it will become official, in writing, the day after the season ends."

"I want him back," Mara continued, "because the players love him. If I were a player, he's the

guy I'd want to play for."

Second quote—from Coach Tom Landry: "Staubach's scrambling is a great weapon for us now. But don't think for a moment I'll ever advocate it, because I won't."

Run Often Mandatory

Staubach himself: "It's wrong to go in there and think run. The coach doesn't like it and I think it's bad, too. I really want to stay in the pocket and control things. At times, though, running is a necessity and if it's there, I'll take it."

The bet here is that Roger's dodging will take the Cowboys, football's most complete team currently, all the way to the Super Bowl. And this time, they won't fall short.

One final Cowboy quote, from Walt Garrison—after Calvin Hill (playing in Garrison's place) and Duane Thomas had combined for 174 yards rushing, 98 receiving and scored five TDs against the Jets.

"I noticed the offense seemed to be lacking something out there today."

What Stamps Player as True Pro?

By RICH KOSTER

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—The subject today is professional football players. Pro and con. Subtitle: Where have all the heroes gone?

A youngster with a rubberized football and a plastic helmet looks at the Talented Ones on television each Sunday and dreams of growing up to be like them.

An owner looks at the same talent and says, "I think you'll see a lot of selling of franchises soon. The dealing with the player is approaching the breaking point."

Another owner admits, "I wouldn't be surprised to see Pete (Rozelle) quit in a year or so. I think all the negotiations and demands, the litigation and lawyers, are getting to him."

So what about pro football players—or, for that matter, all pro athletes? Is too much expected of them? Must superior talent equal superior character?

Is there, in fact, any relation between the two? Well, the fans would like to think so. And the father of athletic-oriented sons hopes so.

If you're expecting a blanket indictment of NFL players, forget it. But, on the other hand . . .

First of all, let's consider the Pros. With a capital "P."

Ray May of the Baltimore Colts is a 27-year-old linebacker, single, who has adopted two teen-age youngsters from broken homes and is raising them.

John Niland of the Dallas Cowboys has set up a fund to provide college educations for deserving, but underprivileged youngsters. He contributes all the money he makes from off-season speaking engagements to the fund, and two students now are attending college because of the project.

Some Fight Drug Abuse

Buck Buchanan and Willie Lanier of the Kansas City Chiefs are two of many NFL players active in battling drug abuse.

Clinton Jones of the Minnesota Vikings was active in the "Big Brother" program in college, and since his marriage, he has raised his own brother and adopted, legally, his "little brother."

So there are heroes in the sport. Lots of them. Guys with as much character as talent. Guys like Brian Piccolo and Gale Sayers, who set an example for adults as well as kids.

There are the Charley Johnsons and Larry Wilsons, the Chuck Walkers and . . . well, there are many.

But more and more, there are players—individual and organized—who have abandoned perspective. If the salary of the best orthopedic surgeon in America is \$25,000, how can a one-year running back want \$100,000?

Jim Murray, in discussing this same subject, once admitted that while pro athletes are products of the puff of the press, they should realize that their talents

are merely a cut "above jugglers, one-wheeled bicycle riders and trapeze acts."

In his book, "They Call It a Game," Bernie Parrish admits: "A successful player's ego swells as he progresses and leaves behind the real world of ordinary people. By the time he reaches the pinnacle of his sport—the pros—he is caught in a web of misconceptions."

Among them: his relationship to the media. And the media's responsibility to him.

The player seeking \$100,000 may sympathize with the surgeon but argue that his own asking price suits the market. But he also should realize who created the market in the first place.

If you took the 22—or 44—best football players in the world to Yankee Stadium for a Super Bowl, but no one mentioned it, no one would come. And the talent would be worth nothing in dollars.

Turning Friends Into Foes

So when the pro athlete says "no" to a television interviewer, berates a writer and generally is surly and uncooperative, he is making enemies out of friends.

And when another accuses a writer of magnifying mistakes and overlooking accomplishments—and then adds that the reason the fans are down on the team and players is the press—he is reacting like a spoiled child.

If he had first-hand contact with the fans, he'd better understand criticism. The media, at worst, is restrained. Especially in St. Louis. Performance and the scoreboard influence the fans far more than press-TV editorial comments.

Obviously, the above examples are not imaginations, fabrications. They are true and to a degree typical. Just as it is typical for coaches honestly to believe that writers are an arm of the club—rather than representatives of the readers.

If you've followed the headlines in the newspapers in St. Louis on the alternate Decembers of the past decade, you've found players "explaining" disappointing seasons. What you haven't found much of is the word "I." Racism, fines, teammates, coaches, owners, the press; that is where the blame has been directed.

Nobody expects perfection from a pro athlete. Or a championship every year. But honesty is something else. And uncomplaining silence is the mark of a real pro.

Regardless of the number of defeats—or victories—the fans and the inhabitants of the press box never touch the ball. They merely watch—and report and talk about the results.

To paraphrase Harry Truman: "If you can't stand the heat, get out of the stadium."

St. Louis Globe-Democrat

Tose Rewards Retzlaff, Khayat

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—Owner Leonard Tose and the Philadelphia Eagles wound up their 1971 season on a dramatic note.

After the Eagles drubbed the New York Giants, 41-28, December 19, Tose surprised the players by announcing in the locker room that General Manager Pete Retzlaff and Coach Ed Khayat will receive new two-year contracts.

The players cheered the announcement and celebrated by tossing Khayat into the showers. Retzlaff was presented the game ball.

"I was really pleased the way the players reacted to the announcement," Tose said.

NFL summaries

REDSKINS 38, RAMS 24

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—Football, according to George Allen, is mainly a game of emotions, but it helps to have a quarterback complete 75 percent of his passes.

Quarterback Billy Kilmer threw three touchdown passes, including a 75-yard strike to Roy Jefferson, in leading Allen's Washington Redskins to an impressive 38-24 conquest of the Los Angeles Rams at the Coliseum.

The victory, which assured Washington a playoff position as the National Football Conference "wild card" team, was particularly satisfying for Allen and many of his players. Allen was fired by Los Angeles last year and eight ex-Rams now are with Washington.

With a crowd of 80,402 on hand, Kilmer completed 14 of 19 passes for 246 yards in outshining Roman Gabriel. The Rams' quarterback hit on 17 of 44 for 219 yards and had three intercepted.

Curtis Knight kicked a 52-yard field goal in addition to five extra points for the Redskins, who rocked the Rams by mounting a 31-10 lead in the third quarter.

DECEMBER 13

SCORE BY PERIODS

Washington	7	17	7	7	7-38
Los Angeles	10	0	7	7	24

SCORING

Los Angeles—Alexander, 82 run with interception (Ray kick).

Washington—Jefferson, 70 pass from Kilmer (Knight kick).

Los Angeles—Field goal, Ray 32.

Washington—Field goal, Knight 52.

Washington—McNeil, 32 pass from Kilmer (Knight kick).

Washington—Brown, 1 run (Knight kick).

Washington—Jefferson, 5 pass from Kilmer (Knight kick).

Los Angeles—Klein, 3 pass from Gabriel (Ray kick).

Los Angeles—Ellison, 1 run (Ray kick).

Washington—Duncan, 46 run with interception (Knight kick).

TEAM STATISTICS

	Washington	Los Angeles
First downs	15	17
Rushing yardage	79	104
Passing yardage	240	214
Return yardage	44	76
Passes	14-19-1	17-44-3
Punts	5-43.8	4-39.3
Fumbles lost	2	1
Yards penalized	31	51
Attendance	80,402	

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Washington rushing—L. Brown, 27 for 42 yards; Haraway, 12 for 37; Kilmer, 1 for 0.

Los Angeles rushing—L. Smith, 13 for 49

yards; Ellison, 12 for 48; Gabriel, 1 for 0; Josephson, 1 for 7.

Washington passing—Kilmer, 14 of 19 for 246 yards (one intercepted).

Los Angeles passing—Gabriel, 17 of 44 for 219 yards (three intercepted).

Washington pass receiving—J. Smith, 2 for 37 yards; Haraway, 2 for 4; Jefferson, 8 for 137; McNeil, 2 for 68.

Los Angeles pass receiving—Snow, 4 for 88 yards; Ellison, 1 for 4; L. Smith, 6 for 48; Rentzel, 2 for 32; Josephson, 2 for 19; Klein, 1 for 3; Maslowski, 1 for 27.

COWBOYS 31, CARDS 12

DALLAS, Tex.—Looking ahead, the Dallas Cowboys had a bit of trouble untracking themselves before they defeated the St. Louis Cardinals, 31-12, to gain their seventh straight victory and their sixth NFC Eastern Division title in succession.

The crippled Cardinals were down to one able-bodied running back, Cid Edwards, plus Johnny Roland, who was hampered by a sore ankle. Injuries also forced patchwork in their defensive unit.

"The Cards came in with new offensive and defensive sets and it took us a while to adjust," Cowboy Coach Tom Landry said. "They came in with two tight ends, two flankers and only one running back and made some yardage on us until we adjusted. Normally, if we had been alert, we could have picked it up easily."

"I'm sure glad it's over. It's hard to keep a team at a mental high pitch like we've been now for seven weeks. We weren't quite as alert as we should have been. The reason, obviously, is that we already had clinched a playoff spot."

If the Cowboys as a whole were a little flat, Duane Thomas wasn't. Alternating between fullback and halfback, he scored four touchdowns to tie a Dallas record. Roger Staubach completed 11 of 16 passes for 137 yards, including a screen to Thomas for a 34-yard TD play.

However, Staubach was stopped in a string of 134 pass attempts without an interception when Dale Hackbart grabbed off one of his tosses in the third quarter.

DECEMBER 19

SCORE BY PERIODS

St. Louis	0	6	6	0-12
Dallas	7	14	0	10-31

SCORING

Dallas—D. Thomas, 53 run (Clark kick).

Dallas—D. Thomas, 3 run (Clark kick).

St. Louis—Field goal, Bakken 33.

Dallas—D. Thomas, 34 pass from Staubach (Clark kick).

St. Louis—Field goal, Bakken 29.

St. Louis—Field goal, Bakken 23.

St. Louis—Field goal, Bakken 35.

Dallas—Field goal, Clark 34.

Dallas—D. Thomas, 3 run (Clark kick).

TEAM STATISTICS

	St. Louis	Dallas
First downs	14	18
Rushing yardage	88	205
Passing yardage	127	118
Return yardage	37	10
Passes	12-43-1	10-16-1
Punts	5-36.4	4-38.3
Fumbles lost	1	3
Yards penalized	20	60
Attendance	66,672	

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

St. Louis rushing—Edwards, 20 for 65 yards;

Roland, 5 for 11; Gilliam, 1 for 12.

Dallas rushing—D. Thomas, 18 for 83 yards;

Hill, 6 for 34; Staubach, 2 for 24; Garrison, 11 for 53; Ditka, 1 for 11.

St. Louis passing—Hart, 11 of 36 for 141 yards (one intercepted); Beathard, 1 of 7 for 2.

Dallas passing—Staubach, 10 of 16 for 147 yards (one intercepted).

St. Louis pass receiving—Gray, 2 for 49 yards; Gilliam, 4 for 49; Edwards, 2 for 10;

Roland, 2 for 11; Hyatt, 2 for 24.

Dallas pass receiving—Hayes, 3 for 46; Alworth, 1 for 25; Hill, 1 for 4; D. Thomas, 3 for 61; Ditka, 1 for 6; Garrison, 1 for 5.

BROWNS 20, REDSKINS 13

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Bill Kilmer, who hurled one touchdown pass for Washington, was all set to pitch another when something went wrong. The Cleveland Browns' Mike Howell happened to be in the right place at the right time for an interception.

Howell picked off Kilmer's fourth-quarter toss on his own six and ran to the Washington 23, setting the stage for a touchdown that gave the Browns a 20-13 victory in a battle between teams that had made the playoffs.

xDivision champion.

yQualified for playoff spot.



CURT KNIGHT kicks a 52-yard field goal during the second quarter of the Redskins'

38-24 upset of the Rams by which Washington clinched a playoff berth.

After four plays moved the ball close to the Washington goal line, Bill Nelsen fired a short TD pass to Chip Glass and the Browns had it in the bag.

Coach George Allen of the Redskins was hardly in a jolly mood after the Browns' late spurt. "We made too many mistakes and I have no excuses," he snapped.

Nick Skorich also was far from pleased with the Browns' offense.

"It came down to turnovers and Howell's interception," said the coach. "The defense did a good job in holding off the Redskins."

Nelsen hit Gary Collins with a 17-yard TD pass in the second quarter and Don Cockroft kicked a pair of field goals for the Browns' other points. Curt Knight's two field goals and Kilmer's 29-yard scoring pass to Larry Brown accounted for Washington's tallies.

DECEMBER 19

SCORE BY PERIODS

Cleveland	3	7	3	7-20
Dallas	0	13	0	0-13

SCORING

Cleveland—Field goal, Cockroft 30.

Washington—Field goal, Knight 18.

Cleveland—Collins, 17 pass from Nelsen (Cockroft kick).

Washington—Brown, 29 pass from Kilmer (Knight kick).

Washington—Field goal, Knight 35.

Cleveland—Field goal, Cockroft 22.

Cleveland—Glass, 4 pass from Nelsen (Cockroft kick).

TEAM STATISTICS

	Cleveland	Dallas
First downs	13	22
Rushing yardage	69	117
Passing yardage	154	229
Return yardage	118	186
Passes	15-23-2	18-33-2
Punts	4-37.2	1-46
Fumbles lost	0	2
Yards penalized	20	23
Attendance	53,041	

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Cleveland rushing—Kelly, 18 for 50 yards;

Bo Scott, 9 for 19; Nelsen, 1 for 0.

Washington rushing—Brown, 26 for 81 yards;

Haraway, 9 for 36.

Cleveland passing—Nelsen, 15 of 23 for 165 yards (two interceptions).

Washington passing—Kilmer, 18 of 33 for 229 yards (two interceptions).

Cleveland pass receiving—Pitts, 3 for 30 yards; Bo Scott 2 for 10; Morin, 3 for 40;

Hooker, 3 for 34; Collins, 1 for 17; Kelly, 2 for 30; Glass, 1 for 4.

Washington pass receiving—Smith, 3 for 27 yards; Jefferson, 4 for 46; Brown, 4 for 69;

Haraway, 4 for 32; McNeil, 3 for 55.

BROWNS 20, REDSKINS 13

HOUSTON, Tex.—Even while Dr. Gary Freeman, the Houston club surgeon, was taking six stitches to repair a cut on Ken Houston's right cheek, the Oilers' safety cl

Landry Stickout at QB— He Can Both Run, Pass

DETROIT, Mich.—Greg Landry, who is the NFC Central's finest (and maybe its only effective) quarterback, says a hardship of playing in this division is it ruins the statistics.

Statistics are vital to quarterbacks, who negotiate salaries with their help. The personal opinion here is that Landry was the best quarterback in the NFC over the full season.

He became a mature football leader this year most of the time, but still not against Minnesota. Most important, he has revolutionized the technology of offensive professional football.

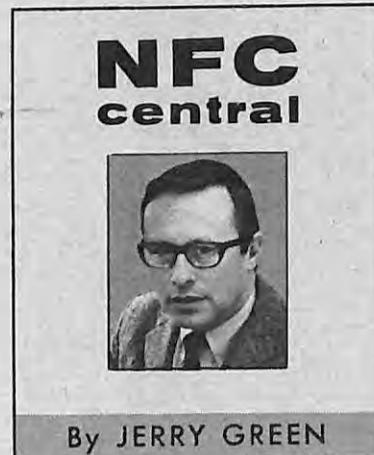
Landry is a runner as much as he is a passer. His running burdened the opposing defenses—again except Minnesota's. As eminent an authority as Hank Stram (whose Chiefs could not cope with Landry) states the running quarterback of Landry's type will be the feature of offensive football in the near future.

"But that's what kills the statistics," said Landry, "playing Minnesota twice. Playing in this division." Still, Landry this year was the most prolific running QB in pro history's T-formation era.

A Decline in Quality?

The NFC Central prides itself on the rest of pro football's respectful description: "The Black and Blue Division." For example, mighty men in pro football's hierarchy are calling the AFC Central "The Pink and Blue Division."

But the personal opinion here, again, is that the NFC Central just isn't all that excellent any more. Certainly, the Vikings have an excellent defense. But they have no offense, and their defense is really their Front Four, which is plenty enough. The Lions have perhaps the best offense—and it is young and improving. But their defense is decrepit. The Bears mystify as they were doing well early with no offense and no defense and doing poorly at the end because of the



By JERRY GREEN

same non-ingredients. The Packers are a distance away from contention, although they do have some youth and promise. But they need a quarterback and their defense is porous.

The Vikings' dominance of the over-respected Black and Blue Division was manifested in this season's divisional in-fighting.

In games within the division alone, only the Vikings managed to have a plus record. They were 5-1, beating Detroit and Green Bay twice and splitting with Chicago. The Lions were 2-3-1, beating Chicago and Green Bay once and tying the Packers in the rematch. The Packers likewise were 2-3-1, beating the Bears twice. The Bears were 2-4, upsetting Minnesota and Detroit in the first half of the season when Chicago believed it had discovered football utopia.

CHICAGO: The biggest question among the Bears is whether they're about to hang Jim Dooley.

After one particular display of ineptitude, Dooley arose before a luncheon collection of members of the Union League Club of Chicago and informed them:

"I believe I am as good a coach as there is in the league."

Which is some kind of self-belief after your club just has finished a four-game sequence in which the scoring production was as follows: 3, 3, 3, 3. The Bears managed but two TDs in their final six games.

The decision is up to Papa Bear, George Halas, who has been bitterly disappointed by a team which dashed off to a 5-2 record, then folded. Rumors prevailed that Dooley was done after four years of a five-year contract.

"That's a lot of bull," said Papa Bear. "I haven't even thought about it."

Now that the season is ended, certainly Halas will. Dooley certainly is as ingenious as any coach in pro football . . . but he never has coached a winning team. And winning is what coaches are hired to do.

Brockington Brilliant Rookie

GREEN BAY: Only four times in pro football history has a rookie runner gained admittance into the elite thousand-yard club. John Brockington was No. 4—following Chicago's Beattie Feathers (1934), Buffalo's Cookie Gilchrist and Cincinnati's Paul Robinson.

The day Brock broke 1,000, he said he tried to blot the four-digit numeral from his mind.

"But the minute I made that run, the crowd reacted and I knew I'd gone over it," said Brockington.

Of course, a thousand yards is the goal of every runner turning pro. Brock hoped, but really he surpassed his own rookie expectations.

"I had a slow start because I had a lot to learn about the system," he said. "Then I began to pick up and it all started to happen so suddenly."

It must be presumed that a brilliant career is over for Ray Nitschke, who once bridled at being called a madman on a nationally televised interview. Nitschke didn't play much at middle linebacker for the Packers this year. But he played a lot, and played magnificently, for all five of Vince Lombardi's NFL cham-



QUARTERBACK JOHN BRODIE completes a 10-yard sprint into the end zone with the deciding touchdown in the 49ers' 31-27 title-clinching win over the Lions.

pions. And when the Packers' faithful rendered him a tremendous ovation on Ray Nitschke Day, he cried. Ever see a madman cry?

MINNESOTA: Even in Minnesota, where emotion is forbidden by an edict of Bud Grant, there has been a discipline problem this year.

Al Denson was acquired from Denver to spruce up the Vikings' pass offense this year. He didn't—perhaps because he didn't play much. Anyway, Grant tried to move Denson to the taxi squad in late season. Denson rebelled and rather than accept the demotion, left the club.

'Ridiculous!' Says Al

"To put a star with my talent on the move list at this time of year is ridiculous," said Denson. "I've been All-Pro the last six years. They don't have anyone here better. But they try to make them better."

Denson's spot was given to John Henderson, hurt most of this year, but a starter at wide receiver the

past several seasons.

As always, no explanation was given by the Vikings. Presumably, Grant felt his old crutch statement would suffice: "It seemed like the thing to do."

DETROIT: The Lions went to San Francisco vowing to save some jobs for the beleaguered assistant coaches of Joe Schmidt. No firings really were expected on the only staff that has remained unaltered in all of pro football through the past five years. But after the Lions' sorrowful season and their elimination from the playoffs, Owner Bill Ford, speaking in anguish, did admit there was a possibility heads would roll, if necessary for improvement.

This was interpreted as a major shakeup, which is unlikely.

"We feel we can get a lot of people off our backs if we win," said Wayne Walker, the Lions' team elder. "This is the same coaching staff that took us to the playoffs last year."

Amen.

49ers Finish First in NFL's Hottest Contest

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—In the last month of the season, the NFC's two California teams, the Rams and 49ers, dispelled the last doubt that they're the stars of the National Football League's most competitive division.

The lead changed hands four Sundays in a row in the NFC West.

But that had been the pattern of the season. During the 14-week schedule, nobody in this division held the lead more than three weeks in a row.

First place, in fact, changed hands eight times in the NFC West in the first 13 weeks. Almost certainly this is an NFL record.

All four teams stood on top of this division at least once in 1971.

For instance, Atlanta and New Orleans shared first place the first week, with Atlanta on top seven days later, and San Francisco ahead the third week.

Rams Grab Top Spot

On October 10, the Rams knocked San Francisco out of first and held it for three weeks. When Miami defeated the Rams October 31, the 49ers were back in the lead for three weeks.

Starting November 21, when the Rams again outscored the 49ers, they began leading the division in alternate weeks. The Rams were ahead in the 10th week, San Francisco in the 11th, Los Angeles in the

12th, and San Francisco in the 13th. The alternate spell was broken in the final 14th, when the 49ers won the division crown with a 31-27 victory over Detroit.

This season, in other words, the Rams have held the lead three times and blown it three. The 49ers likewise had blown it three times before they got back in again on the Monday night when the Washington Redskins upset the Rams.

It was cold and windy that night—and also on an earlier Monday night in Candlestick Park when Kansas City upset the 49ers.

The lesson seems to be that California teams don't adjust well to football on cold, windy nights.

Falcons Hot, Cold

ATLANTA: Following the pattern set by the division leaders, the Falcons also were playing well one week and not the next as the season wore through to the end.

On national television, Atlanta looked like a million dollars knocking off Oakland, 24-13. But a week later, the Falcons flattened out in San Francisco, where they could make only a field goal.

One explanation possible is that Oakland represents the AFC, San Francisco the stronger NFC. The Falcons at the end of their season were not a factor in the race in the NFC West—but they had a 3-0 record against the AFC.

NFC western



By BOB OATES

In addition to Oakland, the Falcons outscored AFC's Ohio teams, Cleveland and Cincinnati. A measure of the Falcons is that they (a) defeated an AFC playoff team, Cleveland, and (b) knocked another AFC contender, Oakland, out of the playoffs.

NEW ORLEANS: Danny Abramowicz of the Saints, who clearly earned a Pro Bowl spot this season and who should be invited, is not fazed by knocks on his speed.

"I don't know about that," Danny said. "Sure, I only ran a 4.8 (40 yards) in training camp, but I'm sure there are slower receivers around. And after all, I did beat everyone in camp in the mile run. I guess it's

too bad the field's only 100 yards long.

"I'm just starting to pick up speed at that distance."

Danny explained how the Saints try to break the zone defenses they saw regularly.

"Our quarterback," he said, "reads two secondary defenders on each play before making his throw. Then he'll pass away from the zone."

Fighting the Bump and Run

"Against the bump-and-run defense," Danny said, "we've been going to a lot of crossing patterns, where you just might be fortunate enough to screen a defender from a receiver—and leave him wide open. Our objective is to create one-on-one coverage in the secondary (for Dave Parks).

"There's no one who can handle Parks one-on-one."

SAN FRANCISCO: The 49ers have a leading contender for rookie of the year and Pro Bowl consideration this season in Vic Washington—perhaps the best star-class halfback they've had since Hugh McElhenny.

It's a formidable backfield they have now—Vic and Ken Willard, who gained 129 and 125 yards, respectively, on the same day in December (against the Jets).

Not since 1954 in the era of the "Million Dollar Backfield" (McEl-

henry, Joe Perry and John Henry Johnson) has San Francisco come up with two 100-yard men in the same backfield.

LOS ANGELES: The Ram loss to the Redskins was painful because of the way ex-Ram Coach George Allen of the Redskins did it—with veterans against the Ram rookies.

The big play was a fumbled kickoff on the Ram 4 by Roger Williams, leading to a 14-point halftime lead. Williams is a rookie with good potential—but he is a rookie. Allen does not let rookies run punts for the Redskins. In fact, he doesn't have a rookie on his entire 40-man squad.

Kilmer Fires Bomb

Also in the first half, Washington scored on a 70-yard bomb—Bill Kilmer to Roy Jefferson—when safety Dave Elmendorf overran the play. Elmendorf also is a rookie.

Coach Tommy Prothro of the Rams has the more explosive team. They easily could win the rematch. But the first game went to their old coach. This is the sixth consecutive winning year for Allen in the NFL—which pains the pro football establishment from New York to Dallas. His 9-4-1 in Los Angeles last season was better than the Rams made this year.

NFL summaries

(Continued From Page 18)

Buffalo passing—Shaw, 17 of 34 for 196 yards (two intercepted); Braxton, 1 attempt; Kansas City passing—Livingston, 11 of 25 for 136 yards; Huarte, 2 of 10 for 18.

Buffalo pass receiving—Briscoe, 3 for 40 yards; White, 3 for 24; Simpson, 1 for 13; Patrick, 2 for 10; J. D. Hill, 2 for 40; Braxton, 3 for 30; B. Chandler, 1 for 12; Moses, 2 for 27.

Kansas City pass receiving—Podolak, 2 for 6 yards; Wright, 1 for 36; Ols, 4 for 43; Frazier, 1 for 18; Taylor, 4 for 55; McVea, 1 for minus 4.

JETS 35, BENGALS 21

NEW YORK, N. Y.—The gasping Jets, who had been plagued by injury and misfortune, waited until the final game before putting on their best offensive display of the campaign.

Almost everything seemed to work—offensively—as they mauled the Cincinnati Bengals, 35-21, to run their record to 6-8. The Bengals finished 4-10.

Joe Namath, who played in only four games, passed for two touchdowns, one a 74-yard bomb to Don Maynard, and Emerson Boozer came through with two short TD runs. But the most impressive fireworks were provided by Cliff McClain, who ran 63 yards for a touchdown, the longest in Jets' history.

"It was a nice way to finish," said Weeb Ewbank, the New York coach. "Now I'd like to start putting things together for next year. I'm asking the people who plan to retire to tell me now."

McClain, used only sparingly this season, thinks he's a good running back and should have played more.

"Weeb has a set system about who plays," McClain commented, "but I think I should have been in more games. I want to play, but I don't want to stay here if I'm not going to play."

Bengal Coach Paul Brown, who took the poor season philosophically, said candidly: "We need help. There is no question about that."

In the finale, he got a touchdown from Chip Myers on a pass from Virgil Carter, another six-pointer on a short run by Fred Willis and a third TD on a pass from Ken Anderson to Bruce Coslett.

DECEMBER 19

SCORE BY PERIODS

Cincinnati	7	0	7	7-21
New York	7	21	7	0-35

SCORING

Cincinnati—Myers, 5 pass from Carter (Muhammad kick).
New York—Boozer, 1 run (Howfield kick).

PRO grid deals

DEC. 8 THROUGH DEC. 14

Bengals—Placed cornerback Cornelius Craig on move list; activated safety Al Coleman.

Cardinals—Placed center Tom Banks and linebacker Tom Longo on move list; activated linebacker Mike McGill and cornerback Ted Provost.

Colts—Placed guard Dan Sullivan on move list; activated guard Cornelius Johnson.

Cowboys—Waived back Joe Williams; activated defensive tackle Jethro Pugh.

Dolphins—Placed defensive tackle John Richardson on move list; activated tight end Jim Mandich.

Giants—Placed cornerback Bennie McRae on move list; activated guard Steve Alexakos.

Jets—Waived linebacker Gus Holloman (injured); activated quarterback Al Woodall.

Lions—Activated defensive tackle Larry Woods.

Oilers—Placed defensive end Clovis Swinney on move list; activated wide receiver Bob Atkins and tight end Dennis Hughes.

Raiders—Placed defensive tackle Tom Gibson and center Warren Koege on move list; activated defensive tackle Carleton Oats and linebacker Gus Otto.

Saints—Waived wide receiver Al Dodd (injured); activated running back Carlos Bell.

Steelers—Waived tight end Dennis Hughes; waived guard Sam Davis (injured); quarterback Terry Hanratty (injured) and defensive back Mike Wagner (injured); activated safety Chuck Beatty, quarterback Robert Leahy and center Bobby Maples.

New York—Caster, 11 pass from Namath (Howfield kick).

New York—Maynard, 74 pass from Namath (Howfield kick).

New York—Boozer, 7 run (Howfield kick).

Cincinnati—Willis, 6 run (Muhammad kick).

New York—McClain, 63 run (Howfield kick).

Cincinnati—Coslett, 9 pass from Anderson (Carter run).

TEAM STATISTICS

	Cincinnati	New York
First downs	23	18
Rushing yardage	138	210
Passing yardage	155	164
Return yardage	100	85
Passes	19-30-0	9-15-1
Punts	2-36-0	1-48-0
Fumbles lost	0	1
Yards penalized	79	63
Attendance	63,151	

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Cincinnati rushing—Robinson, 5 for 17 yards; Phillips, 2 for 24; Anderson, 2 for 15; Willis, 9 for 49; Dressler, 5 for 26; Carter, 1 for 7; Lewis, 1 for minus 17; G. Johnson, 2 for 17.

New York rushing—Riggins, 17 for 99 yards; Boozer, 13 for 34; McClain, 4 for 76; Namath, 1 for 1.

Cincinnati passing—Carter, 6 of 9 for 36 yards; Anderson, 13 of 21 for 140.

New York passing—Namath, 9 of 15 for 164 yards (one intercepted).

Cincinnati pass receiving—Myers, 3 for 27 yards; Phillips, 2 for 11; Robinson, 1 for minus 2; Willis, 1 for 13; Trumpp, 5 for 56; Coslett, 2 for 23; Dressler, 5 for 48.

New York pass receiving—Caster, 2 for 26 yards; Riggins, 3 for 0; Maynard, 3 for 114; Boozer, 1 for 24.

RAIDERS 21, BRONCOS 13

OAKLAND, Calif.—Floyd Little of Denver clinched the NFL's rushing championship and Fred Biletnikoff of Oakland won the pass-catching title for 1971 in a game that otherwise had no special significance.

Little rushed for 79 yards in 29 carries to wind up with 1,133 yards, 29 more than runner-up John Brockington of Green Bay. Biletnikoff caught his 60th and 61st passes of the season to finish two receptions ahead of Bob Tucker of the New York Giants.

Little, giving all the credit to Denver's offensive line, said, "I bought them hamburgers earlier in the season, but now I owe each a steak dinner.

"They are a dedicated bunch of guys. They did everything they could for me. When I got near the record, they got tougher."

Biletnikoff said, "I'd be lying if I said I wasn't happy about the record. It's what everyone wants to do. But I'd rather be going to the Super Bowl."

That won't be this season. Oakland, by defeating Denver in the game, 21-13, finished with an 8-4-2 record in the AFC West, a mark that was good only for second place behind Kansas City. Last year, the Raiders won the division title with an identical 8-4-2 mark. Denver's defeat left the Broncos in third place at 6-8-0.

DECEMBER 19

SCORE BY PERIODS

Denver	3	0	0	10-13
Oakland	7	7	0	7-21

SCORING

Oakland—Chester, 67 pass from Lamonica (Blanks kick).

Denver—Field goal, Turner 14.

Oakland—Smith, 1 run (Blanda kick).

Denver—Field goal, Turner 29.

Oakland—Banaszak, 2 run (Blanda kick).

Denver—Turner, 7 pass from Ramsey (Turner kick).

TEAM STATISTICS

	Denver	Oakland
First downs	23	16
Rushing yardage	155	148
Passing yardage	211	163
Return yardage	103	7
Passes	17-41-1	8-18-3
Punts	2-45-5	3-41-0
Fumbles lost	0	1
Yards penalized	30	0
Attendance	54,651	

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Denver rushing—Little, 24 for 79 yards; Lynch, 8 for 49; C. Turner, 5 for 13; Harrison, 1 for 8; Ramsey, 1 for 6.

Oakland rushing—Banaszak, 11 for 66 yards; Hubbard, 11 for 50; Davis, 3 for 29; Smith, 4 for 5; Chester, 1 for minus 2.

Denver passing—Ramsey, 16 of 38 for 216 yards (one intercepted); Little, 1 attempt; Gehke, 1 of 1 for 8; Van Heusen, 1 attempt.

Oakland passing—Lamonica, 8 of 18 for 182 yards (three intercepted).

Denver pass receiving—Masters, 6 for 96 yards; Simmons, 3 for 41; C. Turner, 3 for 21; Harrison, 2 for 23; Mosier, 1 for 19; Little, 1 for 14; Van Heusen, 1 for 10.

Oakland pass receiving—Smith, 2 for 67 yards; Biletnikoff, 2 for 32; Davis, 2 for 14; Chester, 1 for 67; Hubbard, 1 for 2.

Attendance—54,651.

DOLPHINS 27, PACKERS 6

MIAMI, Fla.—Larry Csonka and Jim Kiick, Miami's one-two punch on the ground, each scored a touchdown as the Dolphins disposed of the Green Bay Packers, 27-6, and pocketed the American Conference Eastern championship.

It was a special occasion for Csonka, who became the first Dolphin to gain more than 1,000 yards rushing. He passed that figure with 6:24 left in the second period.

At that point, the referee stopped the game, picked up the ball and handed it to the former Syracuse All-America. Csonka appeared to be puzzled until the public address announcer told the 76,812 screaming fans what the running back had done.

"It was kind of awkward," said Csonka. "I didn't know what to do." He finally took the ball to the sidelines and handed it to Coach Don Shula.

Csonka finished with 1,051 yards, including the 68 he piled up against the Packers.

The Packers, whose points came on two field goals by Tim Webster, had a bright spot in the running of John Brockington.

Brockington collected 73 yards and became the National Football League's most productive rookie runner by gaining 1,105 for the season. That broke by nine yards the record held by Cookie Gilchrist.

DECEMBER 19

SCORE BY PERIODS

Green Bay	3	0	3	0-6
Miami	3	3	14	7-27

SCORING

Green Bay—Field goal, 14 Webster.

Miami—Field goal, 26 Yeremian.

Miami—Field goal, 27 Yeremian.

Green Bay—Field goal, 24 Webster.

Miami—Kick, 1 run (Yeremian kick).

Miami—Csonka, 1 run (Yeremian kick).

Miami—Johnson, 47 run with blocked field goal (Yeremian kick).

TEAM STATISTICS

	Green Bay	Miami
First downs	14	17
Rushing yardage	137	155
Passing yardage	86	90
Return yardage	25	76
Passes	13-22-0	13-21-0
Punts	4-41-5	4-41-8
Fumbles lost	2	

Nelsen Strong Choice as a Division All-Star

CINCINNATI, O.—American and National Conference all-stars, all-pro selections, Pro Bowl nominees—so why not select a division all-star team?

We've come up with one among the four Central Division entries in the AFC. Pickings were slim in a few places, especially in the offensive line, but the defensive unit could hold its own with any all-star team in the conference.

Here's the way this observer picks 'em:

Offense

Wide receivers — Probably the toughest decisions on either unit, but Charlie Joiner, Houston, and Ron Shanklin, Pittsburgh, rate a slight edge over Bob Trumphy, Cincinnati, and Dave Smith, Pittsburgh.

Tackles — Pittsburgh's Jon Kolb and John Brown get the nod because of their pass-blocking ability. Rookies Doug Dieken, Cleveland, and Vernon Holland, Cincinnati, are future stars.

Guards — Pat Matson, having his finest year for the Bengals, rates all-star status along with John DeMarie of the Browns.

Center — Bob Johnson, Cincinnati, winner by an eyelash over Ray Mansfield, Pittsburgh, and Fred Hoaglin, Cleveland.

Tight end — A big year for Milt Morin of the Browns.

Quarterback — Cleveland's Bill Nelsen a clear-cut choice with clutch performances in the Browns' title drive, although Virg Carter, Cincinnati, and Terry Bradshaw, Pittsburgh, had fine years.

Running backs — Cleveland's Leroy Kelly and Pittsburgh's John Fuqua are landslide winners. Best longshot runner? Cincinnati's Essex Johnson,

who was brilliant coming off the bench.

Placekicker — Horst Muhlmann, Cincinnati, the choice in a close race.

Defense

Ends — Jack Gregory, Cleveland, and Elvin Bethea, Houston, get the nod.

Tackles — Mike Reid, Cincinnati, and Joe Greene, Pittsburgh, the best in the conference. Walter Johnson, Cleveland, not far behind.

Outside linebackers — Ron Pritchard, overshadowing Houston teammate George Webster, is the pick, along with Andy Russell of Pittsburgh.

Middle linebacker — Bill Bergey, Cincinnati, a hands-down winner.

Cornerbacks — Cincinnati's Lemar Parrish and Ken Riley easy choices after standout years.

Safeties — Ken Houston, Houston's pass-stealing whiz, and Oiler teammate John Charles the winners.

Punter — Dave Lewis of Cincinnati, with his consistent efforts, game after game.

Player of the year — Bill Nelsen.

Rookie of the year — Dan Pastorini, the Houston quarterback who doubled as the Oilers' punter.

Coach of the year — Who else but Nick Skorich of the Browns?

Craig Has Bruised Kidney

CINCINNATI: Neil Craig, the rookie strong-side safety, spent nine days in the hospital with a bruised kidney.

The injury kept him out of the last two games.

He was the second starting safety lost by the Bengals this season. Ken Dyer, the other starter, remains hospitalized in Green Bay, recover-

AFC central



By BARRY COBB

ing from a bruised spinal cord which left him partially paralyzed.

"We're hurting in the secondary," Coach Paul Brown says pointedly, indicating a defensive back will be one of the prime shopping items in the 1972 draft.

Tough Year for Wright

This has been a frustrating year for tackle Ernie Wright, the senior member of the squad at 32. Wright sat out the last half of the season with a pulled groin muscle after missing only one game in his previous 11 pro seasons.

Ernie, a vice-president of the National Football League Players Association, has no thoughts of retiring, however.

"I'd like to play 15 years, to be honest," he says, "and I think I can. My goal is to get to the Super Bowl and I think this team can make it before I'm through."

CLEVELAND: The Browns looked like anything but division champs in their next-to-last game, equaling a club record with seven fumbles against New Orleans.

Even Leroy Kelly was a victim, fumbling three times.

Asked if the fumbles embarrassed him, Kelly replied, "Not when everyone else was doing it, too. Some of it was just part of the game. You have to expect it."

Leroy also had a bad day running, gaining only 13 yards in 11 tries.

Defensive tackle Walter Johnson recovered a fumble in the end zone against the Saints for the second touchdown of his pro career. His other TD also occurred in New Orleans, which must rate as his lucky town.

The fumble was forced by defensive end Joe (Turkey) Jones, who made things miserable for Saints' quarterback Archie Manning.

Jones, relieving Ron Snidow in the second half, blocked a field goal, batted down several passes and spent the rest of the time chasing Manning.

"It was the longest day I've ever had," said Turkey, who was exhausted after the game.

Shootout in Houston

HOUSTON: Things are still in a turmoil in the Oiler bailiwick, where Owner Bud Adams and Coach Ed Hughes have taken turns firing coaches without the other's knowledge.

In the latest incident, Hughes fired offensive backfield coach Ed Schlinkman and equipment manager Johnny Gonzalez without consulting Adams or General Manager John Breen.

Schlinkman was one of two Oiler coaches retained when Hughes took the head coaching job at the beginning of the year. Schlinkman had been with the Oilers every year of the club's existence except 1964, when he joined Wally Lemm in St. Louis.

"The decision was my own, for reasons I don't care to discuss," Hughes said of the Schlinkman firing.

Ten minutes later, Hughes fired Gonzalez, who had served the Oilers seven years.

"He told Gonzalez he wasn't loyal to the Oilers," said Breen.

Last month Adams and Breen did the same thing to Hughes, firing offensive line coach Ernie Zwahlen and telling the press before Hughes found out.

What made the situation even more confusing, the Schlinkman firing came the day after the Oilers put together back-to-back wins for the first time this season.

Hanratty Slated to Go?

PITTSBURGH: Rumors that quarterback Terry Hanratty will be unloaded by the Steelers continue to circulate.

Coach Chuck Noll attempted to set the record straight on the Hanratty situation at his final weekly press conference of the season.

"He has never asked me to trade him nor has he said anything about playing out his option," Noll declared.

Hanratty was used only sparingly this season and obviously will continue to play second fiddle to Terry Bradshaw, one of the brightest young stars in the game.

Noll did start Hanratty in the next-to-last game at Cincinnati and Terry had the Steelers in front 7-0 when he was knocked out of action with a broken left collarbone.

The Steelers also looked at rookie quarterback Bob Leahy against the Bengals after Hanratty was hurt.

"We couldn't judge from one look," said Noll. "He has good possibilities. We'll find out next summer in training camp."

Meddlers Eager to Undercut Patriots' G. M. Bell

BUFFALO, N. Y.—Hearing about the current turmoil in Boston over the New England Patriots' chain of command, I recalled a scene at the NFL meetings in Palm Beach last winter.

Billy Sullivan, the Pats' president, was in an expansive mood, telling the assembled press about the thousands of season ticket orders the team had in its coffers, about the new Schaefer Stadium, about the change in the name for the team (was it the second, third or fourth change? I don't remember).

Anyway, someone asked about football policy on the club.

"From now on," said Billy, "Upton Bell has the complete say on policy with our football team."

Uppie should have had an instant replay videotape of that memorable moment the other day when he was involved in a fight over just how

much say was complete say in Boston.

The Patriots' board of directors hired Bell last winter to bring order out of chaos. He did. They were the laughing stock of the National Football League. They wanted him to stop the laughing. He did.

Dilution of Power

Now the benevolent bumbler who put the Pats in the original soup want to take the bows for the team's recent success. The power that Bell was told he had when the team hired him as general manager is about to be diluted. Dangerously diluted.

The most prominent issue is supposed to be whether Uppie has the right to fire Coach John Mazur. But, according to those close to the team, that's something of a smoke screen. Bell wanted to get rid of several hangers-on in the organization.

AFC eastern



By LARRY FELSER

tion who owed their jobs to patronage from the previous administration. The Patriots' brass reacted like Massachusetts pols at this attempt to trim the fat.

The word is that Mazur, who guided the Pats to their best won-lost record since 1966, can co-exist with Bell for at least another season IF the board broadens Uppie's powers. These broadened powers reportedly would include the spelled-out right to fire Mazur in the future if the G. M. felt the situation merited it.

Bell May Quit

If those broadened powers aren't granted, Bell is likely to resign.

That would put the Pats back into their familiar role as one of the most disorganized, factional operations in snorts.

Already there are Mazur camps and Bell camps. The Bell camps give Uppie credit for bringing most of the fresh player help to the team, including one of the year's best trades, a fourth draft choice for Dallas linebacker Steve Kiner. The Mazur faction says John made all the trades except the Duane Thomas

number. That's a somewhat ungenerous concession, since the Thomas deal was a super fiasco.

In a market where the team needs good public relations, the Pats hardly can afford to lose a Bell. Uppie has made the New England press take the Patriots seriously.

On the other hand, Mazur, for the sound job he did as coach, has been abysmal in the public relations department. Socially, John is the most enjoyable of companions, but when the subject turns to football, he turns to a script he learned playing for Frank Leahy 20 years ago. Beautiful, except that it's 1971 and Mazur has to deal daily with a hard-bitten press corps which doesn't get goose bumps when it hears the Patriot fight song as those house men did when they visited Leahy once a week back in South Bend.

The Pats, incidentally, could end up a double loser. There are vibrations that say Mazur could wind up with another NFL head coaching job. Losing him and Bell, too, could happen only to the Patriots.

Were Dolphins Intimidated?

BALTIMORE: Watching the Colts defeat Miami, you get the idea that the Dolphins were intimidated by the Baltimore defense. No one ever proved that nice guys really do finish last, but it's strange how often winning teams include nasty, squirrelly guys such as Mike Curtis and Rick Volk.

The Colts' general manager, Don Klosterman, feels Don McCafferty gets slighted in the Coach of the Year voting because everyone expects the Colts to win, and they do. He has a point. McCafferty's low-key, everybody-pitch-in approach has kept the Colts on an even keel.

The Colts feel they get slighted by old AFL hands when it comes to

the voting for the all-star teams. If it will make them feel any better, this old AFL hand included six Colts on his all-conference ballot: center Bill Curry, offensive tackle Bob Vogel, defensive end Bubba Smith, defensive tackle Billy Newsome, outside backer Ted Hendricks and safety Jerry Logan. I gave my middle linebacker vote to Kansas City's Willie Lanier by an eyelash over Mike Curtis. Hendricks is my defensive player of the year.

Jets Couldn't Decide

NEW YORK: The Jets got a laugh when they discarded the four-linebacker defense they had been playing because of the many injuries in their defensive line, then found the Patriots' game plan keyed to the old defense. According to at least one witness, there was a running argument between the offensive players on the field and the coaches on the sidelines over whether the Jets were employing four linebackers or three.

Larry Grantham, the veteran linebacker, was named the Jets' MVP over rookie fullback John Riggins.

BUFFALO: One well-regarded NFL scout says the Bills will "upgrade their defense by 150 percent" if they draft defensive end Walt Tulski on the first pick of the common draft. Buffalo still will listen to offers to trade it.

MIAMI: Jake Scott, the Miami safety, is among the anti-Poly-Turf folks on the Dolphin squad. "I guess it's here to stay," said Jake. "It's easier to get new players than it is to tear out artificial turf and maintain a regular field."

"I never had a sprained ankle in my life, but this year I've already had two on that awful rug."



Upton Bell



John Mazur

NFL summaries

(Continued From Page 20)

Only happy note for New York fans was the 116 yards gained on eight receptions by Bob Tucker, who became the first tight end ever to win the conference receiving title.

But New York's 4-10 record was its worst season mark since 1966.

DECEMBER 19 SCORE BY PERIODS

Philadelphia	7	17	17	0—41
New York	7	7	0	14—28

SCORING

Philadelphia — Nelson, 19 pass interception (Dempsey kick).
New York — Thompson, 1 run (Gogolak kick).
Philadelphia — Zabel, 3 pass from Liske (Dempsey kick).
Philadelphia — Hawkins, 22 pass from Liske (Dempsey kick).
New York — Morrison, 45 pass from Johnson (Gogolak kick).
Philadelphia — Field goal, Dempsey 37.
Philadelphia — Bougess, 2 run (Dempsey kick).
Philadelphia — Jackson, 63 pass from Liske (Gogolak kick).
Philadelphia — Field goal, Dempsey 50.
New York — Kotite, 2 pass from Johnson (Gogolak kick).
New York — Tucker, 27 pass from Johnson (Gogolak kick).

TEAM STATISTICS

	Philadelphia	New York
First downs	15	24
Rushing yardage	81	64
Passing yardage	261	314
Return yardage	161	120
Passes	17-27-0	30-47-2
Punts	4-42	5-39-8
Fumbles lost	0	0
Yards penalized	50	47
Attendance	62,774	

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Philadelphia rushing — Bougess, 5 for 7 yards; Bull, 4 for 25; Davis, 3 for 17; Watkins, 7

for 25; Baker, 4 for minus 1; Woodeshick, 4 for 5; Jackson, 1 for 7; Liske, 1 for 0.

New York rushing — Frederickson, 5 for 8 yards; Morrison, 1 for minus 7; Thompson, 12 for 42; Randy Johnson, 2 for 21.

Philadelphia passing — Liske, 12 of 18 for 221 yards; Bull, 1 of 1 for 15; Arrington, 3 of 7 for 21; Ward, 1 of 1 for 4.

New York passing — Randy Johnson, 30 of 47 for 372 yards (two intercepted).

Philadelphia pass receiving — Jackson, 7 for 145 yards; Hawkins, 3 for 45; Kramer, 1 for 4; Hill, 2 for 50; Zabel, 1 for 3; Watkins, 3 for 14.

New York pass receiving — Tucker, 8 for 116 yards; Morrison, 7 for 160; Hermann, 4 for 36; Thompson, 4 for 28; Frederickson, 6 for 30; Kotite, 1 for 2.

49ERS 31, LIONS 27

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. — Quarterback John Brodie, sometimes a hero and sometimes a bum in the eyes of San Francisco fans, was a hero—and a big one—as the 49ers won the National Conference West title with a 31-27 decision over the Detroit Lions.

Brodie completed 14 of 20 passes for 186 yards, tossed scoring strikes to Dick Witcher, Ken Willard and Gene Washington and then capped the performance by running 10 yards for the winning TD.

"Maybe it wasn't John's best game ever," said 49er Coach Dick Nolan, "but I'd have to rate it right up there. He called a great game, took advantage of weaknesses and came up with the big play when we needed it."

Nolan said he wasn't taking anything away from Brodie when he mentioned that the 49ers' offensive line played a major role in the victory.

"I'll say," shouted the happy Nolan, "that offensive line really blew some people out of there and helped the running game."

Brodie, who raised his TD tosses to 202 for his 15-year pro career, noted that he was only mildly interested to know that he is just the seventh quarterback in pro history to have 200 or more.

"Records are fine," he said, "but winning is better."

The Lions' Steve Owens, who scored one of his team's TDs, passed the 1,000-yard mark in rushing for the season.

DECEMBER 19 SCORE BY PERIODS

Detroit	3	10	14	0—27
San Francisco	7	10	7	7—31

SCORING

Detroit — Field goal, Mann 31.

San Francisco — Witcher, 12 pass from Brodie (Gossett kick).

Detroit — Field goal, Mann 39.

San Francisco — Field goal, Gossett 39.

San Francisco — Willard, 10 pass from Brodie (Gossett kick).

Detroit — Taylor, 14 run (Mann kick).

Detroit — Owens, 1 run (Mann kick).

San Francisco — G. Washington, 30 pass from Brodie (Gossett kick).

Detroit — Sanders, 6 pass from Landry (Mann kick).

San Francisco — Brodie, 10 run (Gossett kick).

TEAM STATISTICS

	Detroit	San Francisco
First downs	18	20
Rushing yardage	134	171
Passing yardage	176	186
Return yardage	23	14
Passes	9-18-1	14-20-1
Punts	2-47.0	2-43.0
Fumbles lost	0	0
Yards penalized	35	72
Attendance	45,580	

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Detroit rushing — Farr, 1 for 6 yards; Landry, 5 for 25; McCullough, 1 for minus 7; Owens, 16 for 59; Taylor, 10 for 51.

San Francisco rushing — Brodie, 1 for 10 yards; Schreiber, 7 for 42; V. Washington, 14 for 38; Willard, 15 for 81.

Detroit passing — Landry, 9 of 18 for 176 yards (one intercepted).

San Francisco passing — Brodie, 14 of 20 for 186 yards (one intercepted).

Detroit pass receiving — Jessie, 1 for 51 yards; McCullough, 2 for 81; Sanders, 2 for 19; Taylor, 2 for minus 2; Walton, 2 for 27.

San Francisco pass receiving — Kwalick, 3 for 32 yards; Schreiber, 1 for 10; G. Washington, 3 for 76; V. Washington, 1 for 7; Willard, 3 for 24; Witcher, 3 for 37.

RAMS 23, STEELERS 14

PITTSBURGH, Pa. — There was no joy in victory as the Rams beat the Steelers, 23-14, but still failed to win the NFC's West Division title, which went to San Francisco as the 49ers defeated Detroit and finished 9-5 compared with Los Angeles' final 8-5-1 log.

The Bears, who went down to their fifth straight defeat, couldn't get on the board until Mac Percival kicked a field goal in the third period. Bobby Douglass, who quarterbacked Chicago in the second half, threw six yards to Dick Gordon on a fourth-down play for the Bears' only touchdown.

It could have been worse; the Vikings coughed up the football twice inside the Bear five-yard line.

Steeler fans, however, had even less to cheer about. The club had gone downhill most of the season and quarterback Terry Bradshaw, disgusted with himself despite setting club attempt and completion records this season, threw four interceptions in the finale.

One of the errant throws, plus Roger Williams' 57-yard kickoff return and Gene Howard's fumble recovery, set up 13 first-quarter points for the Rams, six of them coming on Roman Gabriel's 20 yard toss to Jack Snow.

The Steelers closed the gap to 16-14 in the third period, but any momentum they had gained was nullified by fourth-period interceptions of Bradshaw passes by Kermit Alexander and Marlin McKeever.

Larry Smith's one-yard run and David Ray's three field goals accounted for L. A.'s other points, which were achieved without much effort, Gabriel felt. "I really don't think our team concentrated much on this game, not very well at all," he said. "We knew we had to win, but we also felt San Francisco (beaten twice this season by the Rams) wasn't going to lose."

Gabriel and Coach Tommy Prothro both said L. A.'s title hopes had gone down the drain in the previous week's 38-24 defeat at the hands of Washington.

They were correct.

DECEMBER 19 SCORE BY PERIODS

Los Angeles	13	3	7	0—23
Pittsburgh	0	7	7	0—14

SCORING

Los Angeles — Field goal, Ray 15.

Los Angeles — Field goal, Ray 10.

Los Angeles — Snow, 20 pass from Gabriel (Ray kick).

Pittsburgh — L. Brown, 3 pass from Bradshaw (Grela kick).

Los Angeles — Field goal, Ray 28.

Pittsburgh — Shanklin, 2 pass from Bradshaw (Grela kick).

Los Angeles — Smith, 1 run (Ray kick).

TEAM STATISTICS

	Los Angeles	Pittsburgh
First downs	14	24
Rushing yardage	89	187
Passing yardage	148	144
Return yardage	75	—2
Passes	13-22-0	20-34-4
Punts	5-39.8	3-40.7
Fumbles lost	0	1
Yards penalized	44	38
Attendance	45,233	

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Los Angeles rushing — Ellison, 11 for 23 yards; Josephson, 7 for 33; Rentzel, 1 for 1; L. Smith, 11 for 21; White, 2 for 11.

Pittsburgh rushing — Bankston, 6 for 26 yards; Bradshaw, 3 for 30; Fuqua, 8 for 45; Pearson, 16 for 86.

Los Angeles passing — Gabriel, 13 of 22 for 148 yards.

Pittsburgh passing — Bradshaw, 20 of 34 for 163 yards (four intercepted).

Los Angeles pass receiving — Ellison, 2 for no yards; Josephson, 1 for 3; Rentzel, 1 for 14; L. Smith, 5 for 73; Snow, 4 for 58.

Pittsburgh pass receiving — Adams, 2 for 16 yards; Bankston, 1 for 10; Larry Brown, 1 for 3; Fuqua, 8 for 56; Shanklin, 3 for 33; Smith, 4 for 35; Staggers, 1 for 10.

VIKINGS 27, BEARS 10

CHICAGO, Ill. — Pride, not need, was involved in beating Chicago, Minnesota Coach Bud Grant said before the Vikings took the field and avoiding any noticeable letdown-bounced the Bears, 27-10.

Minnesota already had earned a playoff berth (a Christmas Day date with Dallas), but pride was involved since the Bears had won, 20-17, in the clubs' earlier meeting this season.

Chicago made far too many mistakes to entertain hopes of another victory. Charlie West's interception and 89-yard return of a Kent Nix pass set up the first Viking score, a one-yard run by Dave Osborn.

The Minnesota combination of quarterback Bob Lee and receiver Bob Grim accounted for two other scores on pass plays covering six and 40 yards, and Fred Cox topped off the Viking offensive output with a pair of field goals.

The Bears, who went down to their fifth straight defeat, couldn't get on the board until Mac Percival kicked a field goal in the third period. Bobby Douglass, who quarterbacked Chicago in the second half, threw six yards to Dick Gordon on a fourth-down play for the Bears' only touchdown.

It could have been worse; the Vikings coughed up the football twice inside the Bear five-yard line.

Minnesota entered the playoffs with an 11-3 record—and a Central Division championship for the fourth consecutive season. The Bears finished 6-8, and Coach Jim Dooley's job seemed in jeopardy. "I'll meet with Mr. (George) Halas in the next week or two to discuss it," he said.

DECEMBER 19 SCORE BY PERIODS

Minnesota	10
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By JACK CRAIG



Uproar Over NFL Games Christmas Day

BOSTON, Mass. — Funny how NBC and CBS tiptoed around their repeated announcements that the NFL playoffs on television would begin December 25. They generally avoided mentioning Christmas Day, as if wary that we might attach more importance to the calendar of Christianity than to that of pro football.

Fact is, the coincidence of the dates was very unpleasant for Pete Rozelle, the decision-maker of the NFL. But based on his own limited standards, it was unavoidable that he authorize six hours of TV violence on the birthday of the Prince of Peace.

The playoff schedule called for all eight survivors to compete on the weekend of December 25-26, resulting in football doubleheaders on consecutive days. This set up the single twinbill among the winners on Sunday, Jan. 2, leading to the Super Bowl climax two Sundays later.

None of the possible alternatives was accepted to Rozelle or endorsed by the networks. For instance, the two Christmas Day contests could not be split into Friday and Monday night telecasts, since the former date was Christmas Eve, when the networks had appropriate programming, and since ABC had a college bowl game for Monday.

And two games hardly could have been played Tuesday and Wednesday nights and still allow the winners time to prepare for games the following Sunday.

Seemingly, the best alternative would have been to save the two games scheduled for Christmas Day until Sunday, January 2, then play the conference championship January 9 and the Super Bowl one week later.

The reduction by half of the traditional two-week wait for the Super Bowl would be accepted as a clear blessing to most of the fans, but it would undoubtedly increase the chance of a few empty seats in New Orleans.

But the TV playoff audiences wouldn't shrink. In fact, they would almost surely increase for the playoffs by spreading out the four-game onslaught that was packaged into just 28 hours under the present schedule.

A minor negative aspect would be increasing the dangers of playing in sub-zero climate, as the season was prolonged. But beyond that, the schedule adjustment, even if cleared six months previously, would represent a deference of pro football to the world beyond, raising the question of whether it really is omnipotent.

After all, when Rozelle deemed the NFL schedule beyond interruption November 24, 1963, for the assassination of an American President, who could persuade him that Christmas is that important?

Schedule-Makers Tried Juggle Act

Compounding the Christmas dilemma, it seemed, was the selection of games to be played on that day. Until the Colts were upset on the final Sunday, it was to have been Baltimore at Kansas City preceded by Dallas at Minnesota.

Even your sister knows that these clubs are the true iron of the 26 NFL teams this season. By contrast, the TV lineup the next day, Sunday, at least until the Colts were jolted by the Patriots, was to be Miami at Cleveland followed by Washington at San Francisco, games that lacked the extra appeal for neutral viewers, who comprise the majority in the nation.

"It's related to last year's schedule," said Bob Cochran, the NFL's TV coordinator, regarding the playoff setup. "You don't need a college degree to figure that out."

Perhaps not, but a primer course is required for the juggling act that is invoked to balance off the networks' Sunday schedule.

The choice spot for maximum TV audiences during the four games is late Sunday afternoon, when darkness is setting in the East and when folks are out of bed and back from church in the West.

NBC basked in the late Sunday telecast last year, so it was CBS' turn this year. But its two playoff telecasts were National Conference games.

So if the more attractive Cowboys-Vikings game were switched to late Sunday, the Redskins-49ers would have had to occupy the early Saturday spot, meaning a 10 o'clock kickoff in San Francisco on Christmas morn.

But there was another factor in the dates and, naturally, it involved money. Cleveland had 85,000 seats to fill with the biggest stadium and chances of doing so were much improved Sunday over Christmas Day.

But Cochran noted a positive side of the schedule that hints the NFL does have religion. "They like a late game in Kansas City," he pointed out, "since it is part of the Bible Belt and they have a lot of services around noontime."

Tempest in a Teapot, Cochran Claims

Cochran suggested that the commotion about playing on Christmas was exaggerated. "I have more important problems," he insisted. He recalled that on the opening Sunday of the season in Baltimore September 19, the game had been pushed back to 4 p.m., again for TV convenience. "This occurred near Yom Kippur sundown and we had 248 complaints from Baltimore. Why, I've only had one so far on the Christmas Day games, from a fellow from Missouri who identified himself as a Lutheran."

Okay, so the score was Jews 248, Lutherans 1, other religions 0 on the day of our conversation. But within 48 hours protests had been organized by season ticketholders in at least one playoff site and a Congressman had opted to introduce a law banning TV sports on Christmas Day.

Some defenders of the family day telecasts said to ban it would be undemocratic, that those who deemed it a sacrilege had the option not to turn on the game. They also asked, why deprive those who wanted to watch? And there are millions of lonely persons whose plight is accentuated on Christmas. The TV games are a solace.

The rebuttal is that the justification for the three networks paying \$184,000 for four-year rights to the telecasts is calculated on the premise that American males actually lack free will to ignore an NFL telecast.

Many women simply fail to recognize the vulnerability in their husbands, just as we have difficulty comprehending the appreciation by wives of an unexpected gift. Millions of fathers could not be expected to sit still with tots and toys for a six-hour period and pretend disinterest in the playoff games just a button-push away.

And once turned on, the sight of Alan Page, Carl Eller, Bob Lilly and Roger Staubach in brutal battle was painfully difficult to turn off.

The end result, inevitably, was domestic turmoil in too many homes on Christmas Day. And even if Pete Rozelle can argue that he was locked in, the blame is hardly transferable.



JIMMY WARREN, Oakland defensive back, has Jerry Simmons firmly in his grasp after the Denver wide receiver took a pass from

Steve Ramsey in the season's windup, won by the Raiders, 21-13. Tommy Lyons, Broncos' lineman, is in the background.

No More Miracles; Raiders Tumble

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—After four seasons on top of the AFC West, the Oakland Raiders were dethroned when they lost in another of their summit battles with the Kansas City Chiefs, 16-14.

Not since they started winning titles in 1967 had the Raiders surrendered their lease on first place—even in 1969 when they finished runner-up to the Chiefs in the league title game. Oakland yielded stubbornly this time.

It took a spectacular 90-yard drive, a 10-yard field goal by Jan Stenerud and an all-out defensive effort to prevent another George Blanda miracle in order for the Chiefs to pull off the verdict.

Both Hank Stram and John Madden agreed the key play in the contest was a third-and-10 completion over the middle to Otis Taylor for 16 yards. Len Dawson threw the pass just ahead of a fierce rush by Ben Davidson. Kansas City advanced from its seven to the 23.

Nemiah Wilson caught an elbow in the eye on the play and was forced to leave the game. Jimmy Warren, his left cornerback replacement, was guilty of a 29-yard pass interference on Taylor, setting up the Chiefs deep for the clincher.

Taylor has been the key man for the Chiefs in their big victories this year and, with many of his spectacular days coming in nationally televised games, he is a strong candidate for Player of the Year in the AFC.

Taylor Hot Receiver

Taylor took a 29-yard pass for the Chiefs' lone TD of the contest and wound up with eight receptions for 113 yards. As expected, he was the man the Raiders dreaded most.

Madden, who drew the second-guessers out with his decision to go for a field goal in the 20-20 tie with Kansas City in the first meeting, puzzled some observers by going to Blanda so early.

Daryle Lamonica, obviously bothered by the Chiefs' zone and heavy rush, was replaced by Blanda with 4:16 to go in the second quarter. Blanda, who usually doesn't come in that early, steered the Raiders to a pair of touchdowns and a 14-13 lead.

As one Chiefs' player noted, Blanda's extended tour of quarterback duty may have told on his kicking. He was short on a 47-yard attempt. A 37-yarder was blocked. Blanda survived an unceremonious dumping by Buck Buchanan, the 6-7, 286-pound defensive behemoth of the Chiefs.

Buchanan picked up the 44-year-old quarterback and dumped him on his shoulder for a nine-yard

AFC western



By BILL RICHARDSON

loss. Blanda was shaken up, but did not miss a play.

"I got hit on the back of the head somehow," said Blanda. "But you can't hurt a Polack if you hit him on the head."

In the dressing room, Lamonica admitted he was having the worst season of his nine-year pro career. The loss of Warren Wells, his speed-burning deep receiver who teamed with Fred Biletnikoff, the talented moves man, to give the Raiders a beautifully balanced aerial tandem, and constant zone defenses have been double-trouble for the deliberate thrower.

Second Miss for Dickey

This was only the second time Lamonica had failed to play on a division champion. The other time was his rookie year when Buffalo lost in a playoff to the Patriots after tying for the Eastern Division lead.

For the Chiefs, the victory was especially pleasing. This was the seventh time in their last eight meetings that first place in the West had been at stake when Kansas City and Oakland met in regular-season play. It was only the second time the Chiefs had won out of the eight, with two games ending in ties.

SAN DIEGO: Interim head coach Harland Svare was hired for next season but all seven assistants got the ax. Svare will not wear the general manager's hat, however. "I may be nuts, but I love coaching," Svare said. . . . John Hadl, enjoying a banner season in the face of baffling zone coverages, got the game ball after the victory over Denver and an accolade from Pettis Norman, who called him the most valuable player in all of football. . . . The Chargers have announced four home exhibitions for next year, all Saturday night games, vs. Atlanta, San Francisco, Los Angeles and the New

York Jets. They'll catch San Francisco, Detroit and Dallas for their interconference foes next year.

DENVER: After the brilliant defensive showings against Pittsburgh and Chicago, the Broncos were stung for 498 yards by San Diego, the most yielded in three years. . . . Grateful for their support, Floyd Little promised the offensive linemen steals dinners after passing the 1,000-yard plateau at 1,054. Little originally had said he'd pop for hamburgers. . . . Bob Anderson became the sixth starter for the Orange Horses to be lost for the season when he suffered a shoulder separation in the San Diego contest, next to last on the schedule. Others lost earlier were offensive linemen Larry Kaminski and Sam Brunelli, quarterback Don Horn and defensive ends Rich Jackson and Pete Duranko. Horn, incidentally, was to undergo knee surgery for an ailment that bothered him before the shoulder separation that put him out.

Oakland Spell Broken

OAKLAND: The loss to Kansas City was the Raiders' first to a division opponent since mid-1968. . . . Jimmy Hines, the track star who had whisks with Miami and Kansas City after the 1968 Olympics, was signed for taxi-squad duty late in the year. Hines, living in Oakland, got his chance when Eldridge Dickey was dropped. Hines already was slated to join the catching corps in 1972 training camp. It'll be a surprise if Dickey, the No. 1 draft choice in 1968, ever plays for the Raiders again. . . . Linebacker Gus Otto and Carleton Oats, defensive tackle, were activated for the Kansas City game, but apparently were not in top fettle. Otto did not play, Oats saw sporadic service.

KANSAS CITY: Hank Stram gave out 40 game balls for the victory over Oakland. All members of his staff got souvenir footballs, too. . . . In keeping with today's trend of confusing quarterbacks, the Chiefs are playing much more zone than usual—82 percent in the Oakland game. . . . Otis Taylor went over the 1,000-yard mark in receptions at 1,055, the first time for Otis since the 1966 campaign. . . . Willie Frazier, obtained in an October trade with Houston, played on his first division championship team. The tight end from Arkansas AM&N, who came into the pros in 1964 with Houston and spent five more non-title seasons at San Diego, was in on the drive to the winning score against Oakland.

NBA west

By BOB WOLF



The Strong Get Stronger

MILWAUKEE, Wis. — The rich get richer, says the old saw, and certainly that seems to be true in the case of the Milwaukee Bucks.

Any team with a one-two punch of Kareem Abdul Jabbar and Oscar Robertson has to be a fearsome lot, as the rest of the National Basketball Association discovered last season. But the defending champions have not stopped there, and if they continue to make deals such as the pair completed recently, the league may have to break them up to stay in business.

First, the Bucks took inventory and decided they might need some help in the future, so they traded forward Greg Smith to the Houston Rockets for the Rockets' first-round draft choice next year.

Actually, there were two other parts to the transaction. The Bucks gave up their third-round pick in 1973 and the Rockets gave up forward Curtis Perry. But essentially it was Smith for a first-round draft choice, and you don't make deals like that every week.

Smith was not even playing regularly, having lost the starting job he had held since the Milwaukee club was organized in 1968. Yet to get him, the Rockets surrendered what may have been the first or second pick in the draft.

Jones Next Target

After that, the Bucks thought the deal might have left them a bit thin—although their rivals doubtless would have disagreed—so they swung into action again. They noted that Wally Jones, an experienced and talented guard, was in limbo after being suspended by the Philadelphia 76ers, so they made a trade for him.

The Bucks said that Jones had been acquired for "future considerations," whatever that means. The price could be a player, a draft choice or cash, or a combination of two or all three. But whatever it may be, it scarcely figures to match Jones' value. After all, the 76ers, in effect, traded somebody they didn't have to, so they had to be happy about anything they could get for the recalcitrant veteran.

Obtaining Jones gave the Bucks a surplus of first-class guards—they already had Robertson, Lucius Allen and Jon McGlocklin—but that presented no problem. On the contrary, it gave Coach Larry Costello a chance to use McGlocklin more at forward, where depth was needed

anyway because of the departure of Smith.

So the Bucks are stronger than ever, and Costello insists that this is only because they have to be stronger to stay ahead.

"You can't stand still in this game," Costello said, and he pointed to the fact that the Los Angeles Lakers already have shattered the seemingly unbreakable record of 20 consecutive victories set by the Bucks last season.

Buck Execs Sharp

But how did it happen that the Bucks were able to help themselves for both the present and future while their 16 rivals watched in envy?

Certainly there were clubs with trade bait as attractive as Greg Smith, clubs that needed help far more than the Bucks. By the same token, there were other clubs that could have afforded some kind of "future considerations" for Jones—clubs that needed a man of Jones' caliber far more than the Bucks.

But the Bucks were the club that made the deals, and the fact that they did is a tribute to Costello, Club President Ray Patterson and Administrative Assistant Wayne Embry.

Maybe this explains how the Bucks reached the top in the first place.

A SHARMAN HABIT: Long winning streaks are more or less old hat to Bill Sharman, whose Lakers have become the third team in as many years to break the NBA record for successive victories.

When Sharman was a brilliant guard for the Boston Celtics, he played a part in a 17-game streak that stood as the record until the New York Knicks won 18 in a row two years ago. The Celtics also had several streaks of 12 or more in those glory years.

Lakers Topple Record

The Bucks' 20-game string last season looked long enough to stand up for a while, but the Lakers toppled it with a 104-95 victory over the Atlanta Hawks December 12.

After that incredible feat, which gave the Lakers a season record of 27-3, Sharman said, "The key to any winning streak is working together. You cannot be a selfish player and hope to continue winning. To us, the streak is secondary to the more important fact that we are playing very well. Obviously, we would like to win every game, but this is impossible."

Considering the way the Lakers were going, there were those who tended to disagree with Sharman on his last statement. It was entirely possible that they would make it 33 in a row before tangling with the Bucks again January 9.

WIFE GETS CREDIT: Paul Silas, the streamlined veteran of the Phoenix Suns, says his wife is responsible for the 30-pound loss in weight that has transformed him into one of the outstanding forwards in the league.

"When Carolyn went on a diet last summer, I went on the high protein kick, too," said Silas. "Now I'm running more than ever before. But even though the weight loss has had something to do with my shooting, I think the biggest thing in shooting is concentration."

Silas in Peak Form

Statistics tell an amazing story about the "new" Silas. He is averaging 18 points a game, double his career average for seven previous pro seasons; he's shooting .500 from the floor, compared with a previous season high of .464, and he's hitting free throws at an .800 pace, compared with a previous high of .705.

When the Rockets landed Greg Smith from the Bucks, Coach Tex Winter said happily, "He's just what we need—a quick, rebounding forward who hustles all the time."

Winter may have been right. Smith played only part time in his first three games as a Rocket and collected the modest totals of 20 points and 18 rebounds, yet the Rockets won all three.

The winning streak represented half as many victories as the Rockets had scored in 28 games before Smith arrived.

BULLS PACK 'EM IN: The Chicago Bulls are drawing at a rate of almost 1,000 fans a game over last season. Their first 13 home games averaged 10,470 customers, compared with 9,554 a year ago.

After the Bulls had restored rookie forward Jackie Dinkins to take the place left vacant by the trade of Charlie Pault to the Knicks, General Manager Pat Williams said: "Any club could have signed him after we let him go the first time. I don't know why they didn't."

Wilkins Raps Sked

Player-Coach Lenny Wilkins of the Seattle SuperSonics is upset about the schedule that requires West Coast teams to be on the road for long periods.

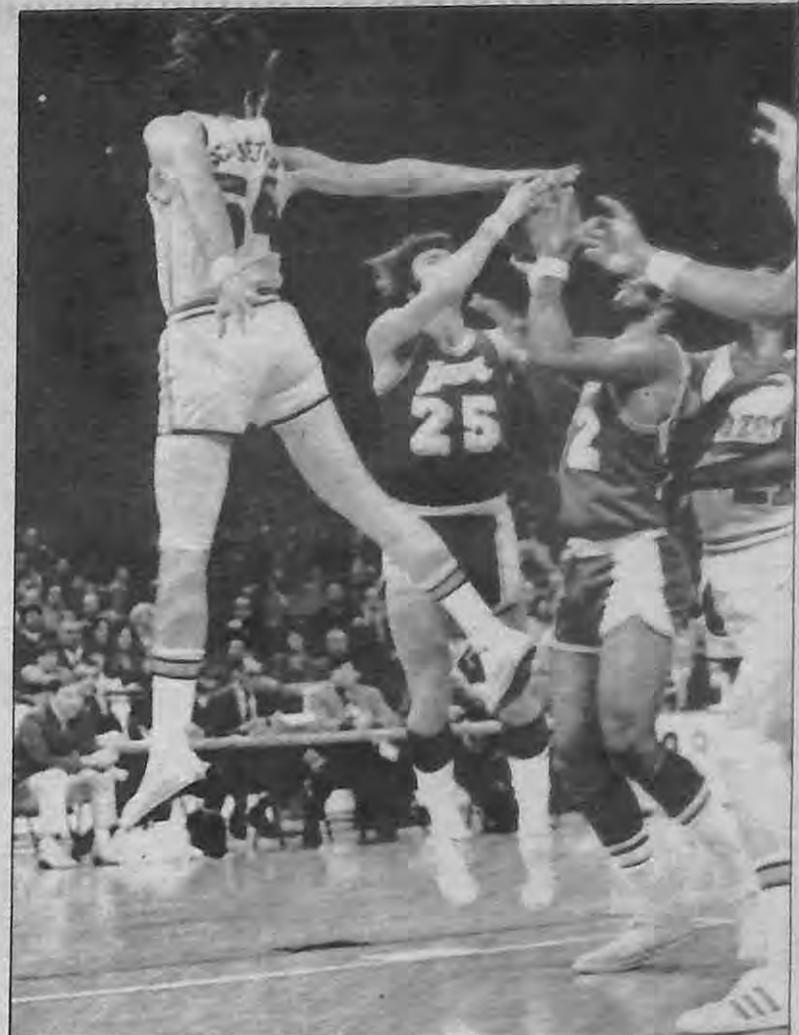
Said Wilkins: "We had an 11-day trip, then we were home for 2½ days, then we were on the road for another week. In February we have a trip that lasts 15 days. It wasn't this way when I played in St. Louis. Something is going to have to be done about it."

Wilkins has a point. Clubs in the East and Middle West take mostly one and two-game trips and rarely are subjected to the backbreakers that have become the bane of those in the West.

And speaking of scheduling, how about this gem from a recent week in December?

On Friday night, the Celtics played in Milwaukee and the Baltimore Bullets in Chicago. On Saturday night, the teams swapped opponents, but did they do it the logical way, with the Celtics moving to Chicago and the Bullets to Milwaukee? Of course not. All four clubs packed up and flew East.

To complete the pattern, the Eastern clubs retraced their steps within a week, the Celtics going to Chicago the following Tuesday and the Bullets to Milwaukee the following Sunday. And then the owners wonder why travel costs are so high!



DALE SCHLUETER (54), Portland, blocks a shot by Happy Hairston (52) in the December 14 contest, won by Los Angeles, 129-114, for the Lakers' 22nd in a row. Gail Goodrich is No. 25. Sidney Wicks is behind Hairston.

NBA box scores

GAMES OF TUESDAY, DEC. 14

BOSTON AT CHICAGO

	FG	FT	Pts		FG	FT	Pts	
Havlicek	11	13	13	Walker	9	6	8	
Sanders	0	1	1	Love	10	8	9	
Cowens	9	1	1	Boerwinkle	2	2	3	
White	14	2	2	Sloan	7	1	4	
Chaney	6	3	3	Weiss	3	0	6	
Williams	3	2	2	Van Lier	6	5	6	
Nelson	4	0	0	Ray	1	3	5	
Finkel	0	0	0	King	2	3	4	
				Porter	0	0	0	
Totals	47	22	116		Totals	40	28	108

Boston 24 32 33 27-116

Chicago 30 25 23 30-108

Fouled out—Chaney. Total fouls—Boston 26,

Chicago 17. A—9,554.

Totals 31 26 36 88

CLEVELAND AT BALTIMORE

	FG	FT	Pts		FG	FT	Pts	
Beard	2	6	9	10	Chenier	2	1	1
Johnson	6	6	9	18	Clark	10	4	5
Roberson	8	2	4	18	Love	4	1	2
Sorenson	1	0	0	2	Marin	4	5	6
Smith	7	4	4	18	Murrey	0	0	0
Warren	5	4	4	14	Stallworth	4	1	2
Washington	1	3	4	5	Trevant	0	2	2
Wesley	1	1	2	3	Unseld	4	4	7
					Riordan	3	5	8
Totals	31	26	36	88	Totals	31	23	33

Totals 31 23 33 88

Cleveland 21 21 27 19—88

Baltimore 22 22 13 28—85

Fouled out—None. Total fouls—Cleveland 23,

Baltimore 26. A—2,967.

Totals 35 16 23 86

Seattle 33 22 19 29—103

Detroit 24 14 22 26—86

Fouled out—None. Total fouls—Seattle 18,

Detroit 20. A—3,465.

Totals 35 16 23 86

Seattle 33 22 19 29—103

Detroit 24 14 22 26—86

Fouled out—None. Total fouls—Seattle 18,

Detroit 20. A—3,465.

(Continued on Page 26, Column 1)



Wally Jones . . . He Cost Bucks Very Little.

NBA STANDINGS

THROUGH GAMES OF DECEMBER 19

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

Club	W.	L.	Pct.	G.B.
Boston	22	12	.647	...
New York	18	13	.581	2½
Philadelphia	14	19	.424	7½
Buffalo	11	19	.367	9

CENTRAL DIVISION

Club	W.	L.	Pct.	G.B.
Baltimore	12	20	.375	...
Cleveland	11	22	.333	1½
Atlanta	10	22	.312	2
Cincinnati	10	22	.312	2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Club	W.	L.	Pct.	G.B.

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NBA east

By PHIL ELDERKIN

Carr Best of '72 Models

BOSTON, Mass.—The best of the 1972 Carrs carries the name of Austin and provides winning transportation for the Cleveland Cavaliers. It is a custom model with all the options, including a four-speed transmission. It can go from the top of the key to the backboard in just under two seconds.

The trouble is most fans around the league don't realize just how much firepower this Carr has—mostly because it has had to be taken off the road twice since the season started for wheel repairs.

"No, I don't consider myself accident prone just because I've broken my foot twice," Carr, the Cavaliers' No. 1 draft pick, explained. "Injuries are a part of sports. But for a while I was afraid to penetrate because of the condition of my foot."

"It wasn't really that strong and I was concerned that somebody might step on it in traffic. In fact, I actually was looking for the perimeter shot, which isn't my style. But I was a driver before and I'll be a driver again."

Austin claims that no one helped him get ready for the pros more than guard Walt Frazier of the New York Knicks.

Tips From Walt

"Frazier was great to me this past summer," Austin recalled. "We not only practiced a lot against each other, but he also gave me quite a few tips. For example, he told me I'd have to play more defense in the pros than I did in college. He also told me I'd have to learn to pass the ball more. You know, hit the open man."

"Well, so far it's been just the way Walt said it would be," Carr continued. "You have to play both ends of the floor all the time to win. But I'll tell you something else: in college I never had any trouble getting my shots off. Up here, even though I'm 6-3 and playing in the backcourt, I have to work for them."

When Cleveland won five straight games earlier in the season, Carr and Butch Beard played sensational in the Cavaliers' backcourt. It is an ideal combination—Beard the feeder and Austin the shooter.

"These are the two kids we're going to build around," said Cleveland Coach Bill Fitch, "because they can take us where we've never been before."

Knicks Land Paulk

OFF THE BACKBOARD—In their never-ending quest for supremacy on the boards, the New York Knicks traded their No. 3 pick in the 1973 college draft to the Chicago Bulls for 6-9 forward Charlie Paulk.

In order to make room for Paulk, the Knicks put 7-1 reserve center Greg Fillmore on waivers. Fillmore had the size but failed because of his lack of mobility.

This is Paulk's fourth NBA team, which usually tells you something, except that Charlie never really has been played regularly over a long stretch. There is a chance that Coach Red Holzman may start him in the corner against teams with Frankenstein centers like Los Angeles and Milwaukee. His job: go hard to both boards.

From rookie center Elmore Smith of the Buffalo Braves: "I'd rather play the tough defense and block shots than score a basket. Look, anybody can shoot the ball. I averaged better than 25 points a game in college. But up here you win with defense. Instead of trying to score a lot as a pro, I'm going to the boards and battling for rebounds."

After weeks of trying, the Philadelphia 76ers finally were able to

solve their Wally Jones problem by trading him to the Milwaukee Bucks for future considerations. That's fancy talk for a high 1973 draft pick and cash.

Jones was suspended by the 76ers at the start of the season when he refused to accept a 25 percent cut in his reported \$45,000-a-year salary. Wally then instituted a \$5 million antitrust suit against the NBA, which he dropped only hours after

the Bucks acquired him. Jones also had been sought by Chicago.

"Of course Wally will help us," said Bucks' Coach Larry Costello, who roomed with Jones at Philadelphia in 1966-67 when the 76ers went 68-13 during the regular season. "Wally can shoot, lead the fast break and play defense. If you ask me, we were lucky to get him."

(Continued on Page 28, Column 3)



Austin Carr . . . Loaded With Firepower.

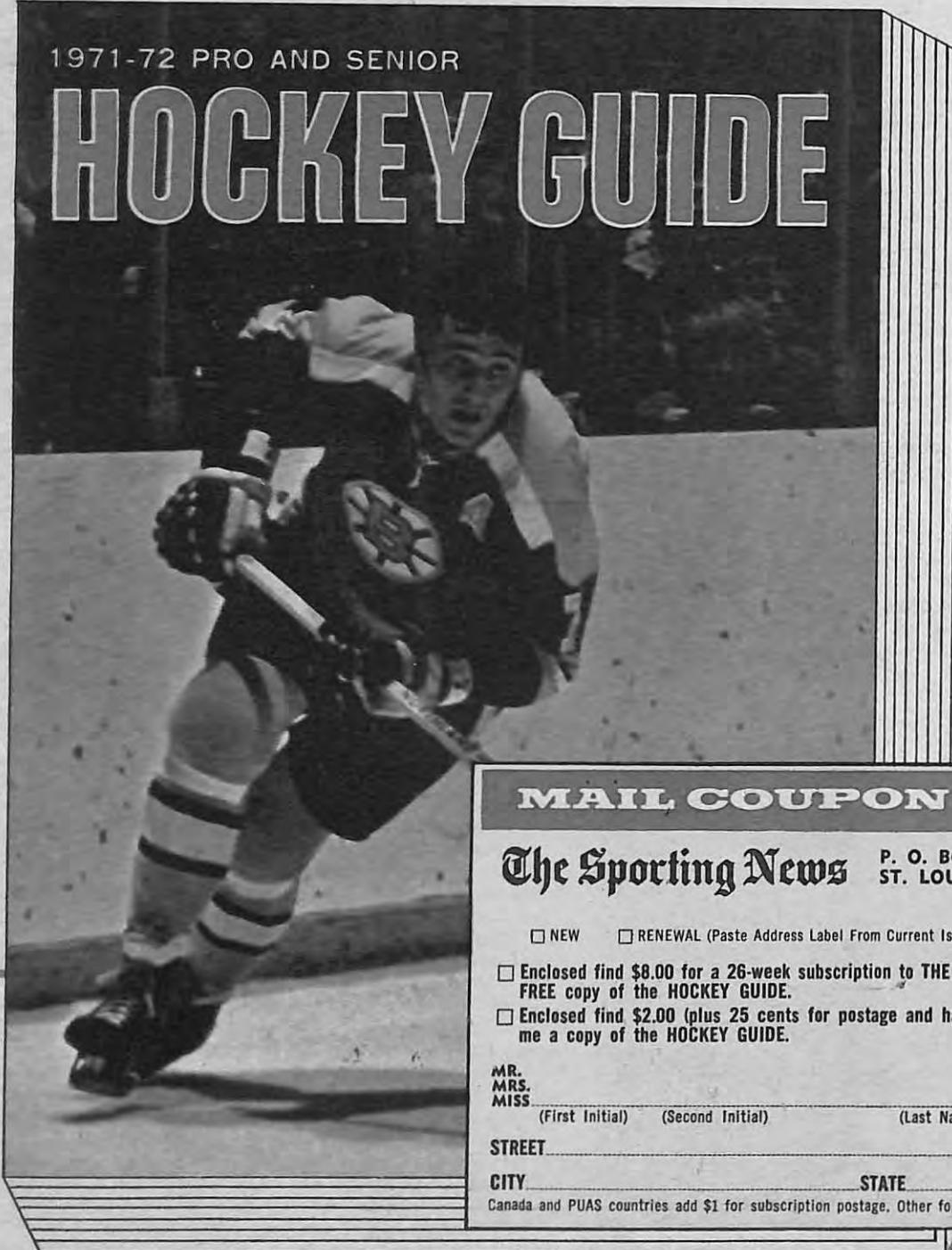
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NBA box scores

(Continued From Page 24)

LOS ANGELES AT PORTLAND		
FG	FT	Pts
Chamberlain 9	6-10 24	Adelman 3 0-1 6
Cross 2 1-3 5	Gregor 10 5-5 25	Ellis 5 1-3 11
Goodrich 9 6-7 24	McCartor 5 1-3 11	Havlicek 7 8-8 22
Houston 7 8-8 22	McKenzie 2 0-0 4	McMillian 5 10-10 20
McMillian 5 10-10 20	Petrie 6 5-6 11	Robinson 4 3-3 11
Robinson 4 3-3 11	Schlüter 10 0-0 20	West 8 7-7 23
West 8 7-7 23	Wicks 12 7-8 31	
Totals 44 41-48 129	Totals 48 18-23 114	

Los Angeles 32 33 30 34-129		
Portland 24 26 33 31-114		

Fouled out—None. Total fouls—Los Angeles 18, Portland 28. A—9,048.

GAMES OF WEDNESDAY, DEC. 15

SEATTLE AT BOSTON		
SEATTLE (100) BOSTON (112)		
FG	FT	Pts
Chambers 5	0-0 10	Chaney 10 2-5 22
Cross 1 0-0 2	Cowens 9 3-7 21	Haywood 9 2-2 20
Haywood 9 2-2 20	Finkel 0 0-0 0	Kojis 5 0-0 10
Kojis 5 0-0 10	Nelson 6 1-2 13	Hearld 1 0-0 2
Hearld 1 0-0 2	Havlicek 9 2-2 20	D. Smith 6 3-4 15
D. Smith 6 3-4 15	White 9 4-6 22	Snyder 6 3-4 15
Snyder 6 3-4 15	Sanders 4 2-4 10	Williams 3 8-9 14
Williams 3 8-9 14	Williams 2 0-0 4	Winfield 3 6-7 12
Winfield 3 6-7 12		
Totals 39 22-26 100	Totals 49 14-26 112	

Seattle 25 29 23 23-100		
Boston 25 32 30 25-112		

Fouled out—Chaney, Cowens. Total fouls—Seattle 20, Boston 24. A—9,225.

PHOENIX AT CINCINNATI

PHOENIX (127) CINCINNATI (108)		
FG	FT	Pts
Counts 0	0-0 0	Fox 6 4-4 16
L. Green 3 2-2 8	J. Green 6 2-7 14	Harris 3 4-7 10
Haskins 8 3-3 19	Jones 1 2-2 4	Hawkins 6 5-7 17
Layton 1 0-0 2	Lacey 7 4-4 18	Moore 3 6-8 12
Moore 3 6-8 12	Mengert 10 3-4 23	Silas 5 1-2 11
Silas 5 1-2 11	T. V'Arle 7 4-5 18	D. V'Arle 11 9-11 31
Walk 6 5-5 17	Williams 3 1-2 7	Wetzel 0 0-0 0
Wetzel 0 0-0 0		
Totals 46 35-45 127	Totals 44 20-28 108	

Phoenix 27 37 34 29-127		
Cincinnati 26 29 23 30-108		

Fouled out—None. Total fouls—Phoenix 22, Cincinnati 31. A—2,038.

GAMES OF THURSDAY, DEC. 16

CINCINNATI AT DETROIT

CINCINNATI (101) DETROIT (107)		
FG	FT	Pts
Fox 9	3-5 21	Dischinger 2 1-1 5
Guokas 2 1-3 3	Komives 0 3-3 3	Laney 6 3-4 15
Laney 6 3-4 15	Lanier 10 6-8 26	Rowe 6 4-4 16
Mengert 6 4-4 16	Rowe 3 3-5 9	V'Ardsale 6 11-15 23
V'Ardsale 6 11-15 23	Walker 9 16-20 34	Green 4 2-2 10
Green 4 2-2 10	Davis 2 2-3 6	Jones 1 0-0 2
Jones 1 0-0 2	Norwood 2 1-1 5	Williams 4 1-2 9
Williams 4 1-2 9	Quick 3 9-10 15	Wilson 2 0-0 4
Wilson 2 0-0 4		
Totals 38 25-35 101	Totals 33 41-51 107	

Cincinnati 27 28 22 24-101		
Detroit 28 28 21 30-107		

Fouled out—Laney, Lanier. Total fouls—Cincinnati 31, Detroit 30. A—1,931.

PHILADELPHIA VS. WARRIORS

AT OAKLAND

PHILADELPHIA (93) WARRIORS (113)		
FG	FT	Pts
Awtrey 1	0-0 2	Allison 2 1-3 5
Bridges 4 5-5 13	Ellis 4 2-2 10	Carter 5 0-0 10 Jones 2 0-0 4
Cunningham 7 5-6 19	Lee 4 4-5 12	Cun'gham 2 1-3 22
Greer 1 0-0 2	Mullins 7 7-9 21	Greer 1 0-0 2
Jackson 3 1-3 7	Portman 2 0-0 4	Jackson 3 1-3 7
Loughery 6 3-5 15	Russell 11 8-11 30	Loughery 6 3-5 15
Rule 1 2-2 4	Thurmond 8 2-2 18	Rule 1 2-2 4
Wohl 6 7-9 19	Turner 1 1-2 3	Wohl 6 7-9 19
Yates 0 2-3 2	Williams 2 2-2 6	Yates 0 2-3 2
Totals 34 25-33 93	Totals 43 27-36 113	

Philadelphia 27 22 12 32-93		
Warriors 18 28 34 33-113		

Fouled out—None. Total fouls—Philadelphia 28, Warriors 22. A—2,818.

GAMES OF FRIDAY, DEC. 17

PHILADELPHIA AT PORTLAND

PHILADELPHIA (126) PORTLAND (127)		
FG	FT	Pts
Bridges 5 5-5 15	Adelman 1 5-6 15	Carter 1 0-0 2
Cunningham 18 11-17 47	McCartor 5 4-6 14	Cunningham 18 11-17 47
Greer 11 1-2 23	McKenzie 2 4-4 8	Greer 11 1-2 23
Jackson 3 5-5 11	Petrie 3 3-4 9	Jackson 3 5-5 11
Loughery 8 4-4 20	Schlueter 7 12-15 26	Loughery 8 4-4 20
Rule 2 1-2 5	Steele 4 1-1 9	Rule 2 1-2 5
Wohl 6 7-9 19	Trapp 2 0-0 4	Wohl 6 7-9 19
Yates 0 2-3 2	Wicks 11 4-6 26	Yates 0 2-3 2
Totals 49 28-36 126	Totals 45 37-48 127	

Philadelphia 27 20 18 32-93		
Portland 37 25 30 25-127		

Fouled out—Schlueter. Total fouls—Philadelphia 31, Portland 25. A—6,237.

WARRIORS AT LOS ANGELES

WARRIORS (99) LOS ANGELES (129)

FG	FT	Pts

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SKEETER SWIFT, Pittsburgh, clutches the ball to his chest after grabbing a rebound in the December 14 game, won by the Condors over Memphis, 130-128. The hands around Swift's neck belong to teammate George Carter.

ABA box scores

GAMES OF MONDAY, DEC. 13

CAROLINA AT UTAH

	CAROLINA (124)			UTAH (115)			
	FG	FT	Pts	FG	FT	Pts	
McDaniels	5	0-0	10	Robbins	7	0-0	14
Caldwell	5	0-1	10	Wise	7	4-7	18
Denton	4	2-2	10	Beatty	12	9-10	33
Lehmann	14	7-8	36	Jones	9	0-0	18
Miller	10	5-8	25	Combs	7	4-4	20
Manning	4	5-5	13	Boone	1	7-8	9
McClain	3	0-0	6	Leeks	0	0-0	0
Davis	4	6-7	14	Beasley	1	1-1	3
Totals	49	25-31	124	Totals	44	25-30	115
Carolina	30	29	30	35-124			
Utah	33	24	32	26-115			

Fouled out—Manning. Total fouls—Carolina 25, Utah 24. Three-point goals—Lehmann, Combs 2. A—6,106.

FLORIDIANS VS. VIRGINIA

AT NORFOLK

	FLORIDIANS (115)			VIRGINIA (123)			
	FG	FT	Pts	FG	FT	Pts	
Tucker	8	3-5	19	Moe	1	1-1	3
Robinson	6	6-8	18	Erving	10	3-5	23
Harge	5	3-4	13	Eakins	6	2-2	14
Armstrong	7	5-7	19	Taylor	1	2-3	4
Jones	7	4-5	18	C. Scott	16	10-12	43
Calvin	7	10-10	24	Smith	1	0-0	0
Long	0	0-0	0	Williams	3	2-2	8
Allen	1	0-0	2	R. Scott	3	4-6	10
Raymond	1	0-2	2	Irvine	1	0-1	2
Totals	42	31-41	115	Totals	47	28-38	123
Floridians	37	28	25	25-115			
Virginia	32	39	23	29-123			

Fouled out—Armstrong. Total fouls—Floridians 27, Virginia 30. Three-point goal—C. Scott, A—3,866.

GAMES OF TUESDAY, DEC. 14

VIRGINIA VS. CAROLINA

AT GREENSBORO

	VIRGINIA (121)			CAROLINA (125)			
	FG	FT	Pts	FG	FT	Pts	
Erving	13	4-6	30	Caldwell	10	1-1	21
Moe	5	0-1	10	Davis	3	1-2	7
Eakins	7	5-5	19	McDan'l's	16	7-8	39
C. Scott	13	3-5	29	Lehmann	7	8-8	24
Taylor	4	2-3	10	Miller	10	7-9	27
Irvine	4	1-1	9	Manning	1	1-1	3
R. Scott	1	0-0	2	Denton	2	0-0	4
Sojourner	0	0-0	0	Totals	49	25-29	125
Williams	5	2-3	12	Totals	52	17-24	121
Totals	52	17-24	121	Totals	29	19	39
Virginia	29	19	39	34-121			
Carolina	32	35	34	24-125			

Fouled out—Caldwell. Total fouls—Virginia 29, Carolina 32. A—3,866.

22, Carolina 22. Three-point goals—Lehmann 2. A—3,991.

	MEMPHIS (128)			PITTSBURGH (130)			
	FG	FT	Pts	FG	FT	Pts	
Ladner	3	1-1	8	Brisker	15	3-3	34
Jones	6	2-3	14	Carter	12	4-4	28
Govan	4	4-7	12	Lewis	4	3-4	11
Williams	8	4-4	20	Swift	3	3-4	9
Warren	7	1-2	15	Thompson	14	4-4	33
Neum'	11	5-6	29	Ligon	1	5-9	7
Cannon	7	1-2	15	Bowman	0	1-3	1
Owens	6	0-2	12	Ruffner	2	3-4	7
L. Davis	1	1-3	3	Totals	51	26-35	130
Totals	53	19-30	128	Totals	51	26-35	130
Memphis	26	36	36	30-128			
Pittsburgh	29	36	28	37-130			

Fouled out—None. Total fouls—Memphis 30, Pittsburgh 23. Three-point goals—Ladner, Neumann 2, Brisker, Thompson. A—1,079.

NEW YORK AT DENVER

	NEW YORK (118)			DENVER (119)			
	FG	FT	Pts	FG	FT	Pts	
Barry	20	7-7	48	Becker	8	2-2	18
Wash'ton	4	1-1	9	Beck	6	0-2	12
Paultz	5	5-5	15	Keye	2	0-0	4
Roche	5	0-0	10	Brown	9	0-1	18
Melchionni	7	1-4	15	Simpson	17	8-9	42
Moore	0	0-0	0	Smith	1	2-2	4
Ard	0	1-2	1	Card	0	0-0	0
Taylor	7	6-11	20	Williams	0	0-0	0
Kennedy	10	1-3	21	Hammond	4	1-3	9
Niemann	1	2-2	4	Robisch	4	4-11	12
Totals	48	21-30	118	Roberts	0	0-0	0
Totals	51	17-30	119	Totals	51	17-30	119
New York	35	26	35	22-118			
Denver	40	19	30	30-119			

Fouled out—Paultz. Total fouls—New York 23, Denver 25. Three-point goal—Barry. A—3,270.

NEW YORK AT MEMPHIS

	INDIANA (107)			DALLAS (98)			
	FG	FT	Pts	FG	FT	Pts	
Netolicky	5	2-4	12	R. Jones	2	0-0	4
Brown	12	2-2	29	Hill	1	1-3	3
Daniels	10	7-9	27	Johnson	5	2-2	12
Mount	6	3-3	15	S. Jones	9	6-8	24
Lewis	7	4-5	18	Freeman	2	0-1	4
Keller	0	0-0	0	Hamilton	7	2-3	16
Winkler	0	0-0	0	Halimon	0	0-1	0
Price	2	0-0	4	Chappell	3	2-2	8
Hillman	1	0-0	2</				

ABA box scores

(Continued From Page 27)

VIRGINIA AT FLORIDIANS			FLORIDIANS (119)		
FG	FT	Pts	FG	FT	Pts
Moe	2 3-4	7	Tucker	6 3-5	15
Erving	8 2-5	18	Armstrong	6 3-4	16
Eakins	1 2-2	4	Harg	8 3-4	19
Taylor	2 4-4	8	Calvin	4 9-10	17
C. Scott	9 4-5	23	Jones	6 4-5	17
Smith	1 0-0	2	Robinson	2 0-0	4
Williams	5 4-5	15	Franz	6 2-3	6
R. Scott	4 1-1	9	Wright	7 1-1	15
Irvine	3 1-1	7	Raymond	0 2-2	2
Sojourner	6 0-3	12			
Totals	41 21-30	105	Totals	45 27-33	119
Virginia	32	19	30	24	105
Floridians	32	20	32	35	119

Fouled out—None. Total fouls—Virginia 21, Floridians 23. Three-point goals—C. Scott, Williams, Armstrong, Jones. A—2,291.

CAROLINA AT KENTUCKY			KENTUCKY (137)		
FG	FT	Pts	FG	FT	Pts
Caldwell	5 2-9	12	Powell	8 1-1	17
McDaniels	9 3-5	21	Isse	9 6-9	24
Denton	6 0-0	12	Gilmore	14 6-8	34
Lehmann	1 1-1	3	O'Brien	3 0-0	6
Miller	6 1-1	13	Dampier	5 2-2	12
Davis	2 0-0	4	Gale	1 6-6	6
McClain	3 8-10	14	Hunter	2 2-2	6
Stone	1 0-0	2	Simon	4 2-2	11
Manning	4 0-0	8	Russell	5 3-3	13
Littles	1 2-3	4	Pratt	1 3-4	6
Totals	38 17-29	93	Totals	52 31-37	137
Carolina	22	23	22	26	93
Kentucky	36	27	32	42	137

Fouled out—None. Total fouls—Carolina 28, Kentucky 22. Three-point goals—Simon, Pratt. A—9,762.

DALLAS AT INDIANA			INDIANA (124)		
FG	FT	Pts	FG	FT	Pts
R. Jones	7 3-4	17	Netolicky	7 5-6	19
Kennedy	8 1-3	17	Brown	9 6-7	25
Johnson	2 1-1	5	Daniels	11 1-1	23
Freeman	8 0-0	16	Mount	6 1-2	14
S. Jones	8 2-2	19	Lewis	7 5-5	21
Hamilton	6 2-4	15	Keller	3 1-1	7
Halimon	3 0-0	6	Price	0 0-0	0
Chappell	1 4-4	6	Hillman	1 2-3	4
C. Jones	2 3-3	7	Sidle	3 5-5	11
Hill	1 0-0	2			
Totals	46 16-21	110	Totals	47 26-30	124
Dallas	18	29	36	27	110
Indiana	33	24	30	37	124

Fouled out—None. Total fouls—Dallas 23, Indiana 18. Three-point goals—S. Jones, Hamilton, Lewis 2, Brown, Mount. A—5,871.

GAME OF THURSDAY, DEC. 16			PITTSBURGH AT FLORIDIANS		
FG	FT	Pts	FG	FT	Pts
PITTSBURGH (103)	FLORIDIANS (129)				
Carter	12 5-5	29	Tucker	9 3-3	21
Brisker	11 4-5	27	Armstrong	5 2-3	13
Lewis	1 1-3	3	Harge	7 2-2	16
Swift	3 0-0	6	Calvin	8 13-14	29
Thompson	9 5-6	25	Jones	6 1-2	14
Ligon	0 3-3	3	Franz	3 2-2	8
Bowman	0 0-0	0	Wright	5 0-1	10
Ruffner	1 0-0	2	Long	2 0-0	4
Verga	2 2-3	6	Robinson	1 0-0	2
Lattin	0 2-2	2	Allan	2 0-0	4
Totals	39 22-27	103	Tinsley	3 0-0	6
Totals	52 23-27	129			
Pittsburgh	19	24	29	31	103
Floridians	34	21	42	32	124

Fouled out—Long. Total fouls—Pittsburgh 19, Floridians 23. Three-point goals—Brisker, Thompson 2, Bowman, Armstrong, Jones. A—2,075.

GAMES OF FRIDAY, DEC. 17			PITTSBURGH VS. VIRGINIA		
FG	FT	Pts	FG	FT	Pts
DALLAS (83)	NEW YORK (90)				
S. Jones	4 1-1	9	Barry	3 6-7	12
Kennedy	1 3-3	5	Washington	7 5-7	19
R. Jones	7 2-3	17	Paultz	10 7-10	27
Hamilton	4 3-5	12	Roche	7 5-5	19
Freeman	7 5-8	19	McLachlin	4 0-3	8
Halimon	0 0-0	0	Ard	0 0-0	0
Johnson	2 0-0	4	Moore	0 0-0	0
Chappell	0 0-0	0	Taylor	2 1-3	5
C. Jones	3 5-6	11			
Hill	1 4-5	6	Totals	33 24-35	90
Totals	29 23-31	83	Totals	52 23-27	129
Dallas	18	15	26	24	83
New York	22	19	21	28	90

Fouled out—None. Total fouls—Dallas 23, New York 23. Three-point goals—R. Jones, Hamilton. A—5,497.

CAROLINA AT PITTSBURGH			PITTSBURGH (143)		
FG	FT	Pts	FG	FT	Pts
Caldwell	14 1-3	29	Brisker	17 2-2	36
Davis	6 4-8	16	Carter	12 9-10	33
McDan'l's	17 9-10	43	Lewis	4 1-1	9
Lehmann	4 3-3	13	Swift	5 3-4	13
Miller	13 7-8	34	Thompson	9 4-4	26
Freeman	2 0-0	5	Ligon	1 0-1	2
Denton	2 0-1	4	Bowman	0 0-0	0
Manning	1 0-0	2	Ruffner	9 2-2	20
Totals	59 24-33	146	Totals	59 21-24	143
Carolina	35	20	37	41	13-146
Pittsburgh	33	36	33	31	10-143

Fouled out—None. Total fouls—Carolina 20, Pittsburgh 25. Three-point goals—Lehmann 2, Miller, McClain, Thompson 4. A—1,467.

VIRGINIA AT KENTUCKY			KENTUCKY (128)		
FG	FT	Pts	FG	FT	Pts
Moe	1 1-1	3	Powell	6 2-2	14
Erving	12 2-2	25	Isse	14 1-1	29
Eakins	5 2-3	12	Gilmore	12 3-5	27
C. Scott	15 4-7	34	O'Brien	1 0-0	2
Taylor	6 1-2	13	Dampier	10 8-9	29
Williams</					



BOBBY JONES shook hands with President Dwight Eisenhower after the Chief Executive presented an Eisenhower portrait of

the famous golfer on February 28, 1953. Eisenhower was a frequent guest at the Augusta National Golf Club.

auto racing

By RAY MARQUETTE



Big Daddy Visits GIs

FIRE BASE KATIE, South Vietnam—Don Garlits, the man drag racing people call Big Daddy, sat on a pile of sandbags with his legs propped up in front of him and surrounded by a sun-burned group of GIs.

He squinted under the hot sun, pulled the bill of his cap a little farther over his eyes and started talking about his way of life.

Around him, the audience began to swell and questions began to roll out. They wanted to know what had happened in the world of auto racing.

Big Daddy, who had just completed his 21st year in drag racing, passed out pictures of the new rear-engine rail that won more national titles than any other machine in 1971. Then he began to talk.

"Why did I go to a rear-engine car? Most of you probably remember my wreck at Long Beach in 1970 when the transmission exploded and I got upside down.

"It (the transmission) sliced off half of my right foot. I held it on while I was going to the hospital. Anyway, I spent eight months in that hospital and did a lot of thinking. For awhile I thought about chucking the whole thing. I had been at it for 20 years and after this accident, I thought maybe it was time to quit."

Worked From Wheel Chair

"Then I got to thinking about putting the engine behind me. It had been tried before—but never successfully. I started making drawings of a car. When I got home I was in a wheel chair for another eight weeks, and when I got onto crutches I started hobbling out to the garage and sawing parts."

"People kept telling me it wouldn't work. Some of my sponsors heard about it and said, 'Hey, stay with what you've got.' But my wife told me if I really believed in it, it

would work. So I kept on going.

"Finally, I got it put together and ran it. Boy, it did strange things. The front end would keep going this way and that and I finally figured out it had to be oversteer. I corrected that but when I'd start on a run, every once in a while the car would still dart on me."

"It felt like the rear end would lock up on me every once in awhile. I'd run 'loose' rear ends before in some of my other cars, so I decided to get away from the position and run it loose."

"The first time I fired it up that way, it went straight as an arrow, so I loaded it on the truck and headed for the West Coast and the first meet of 1971. I didn't have any skin on it or anything else, just the cage around the driver's seat."

The Snake Is Inquisitive

"Anyway, I pulled into the strip and was working on the car when The Snake (Don Prudhomme, perhaps Garlits' top challenger) pulled in and squealed the brakes on his truck."

"What you got there?" he asked. "You know the rear engine won't work—and where have you got your slingshot hidden?"

"I told him the car had run pretty good back home and it was the only one I had brought. Anyway, I had to get some pieces welded and didn't get to run for a couple of hours and some of the big guys had already had some fast runs."

"I ended up second and knew I had the answer. So I had a skin put on it and won the next meet—and The Snake started building a new rear engine car for himself."

By this time, the audience had thoroughly relaxed—and so had Garlits.

"This is great," he said with his dark eyes flashing. "I've found all kinds of guys who've followed drag racing—and they like to talk about it."

"You couldn't buy a trip like this we're on; it's one of the most exciting things I've ever done."

"We sit back in the States and don't know what's really going on in the world."

"Now we have a chance to be where it's happening and find out for ourselves."

"Saigon itself is absolutely gross; I mean it's unreal. It smells and seems so crowded. I looked out the window our first morning there and saw people sleeping in the alley. They were actually living there and on the streets."

Kids Live in Streets

"And the kids—they've got absolutely nothing. Some of them sleep in cars and trucks and actually live on the streets. I don't know how they live or where they get food."

"I was talking to a major in front of the Meyerkord and he gave me the lowdown on a group of kids who hang around on the sidewalks."

"He told me their names and said this one's mother was in jail; that one didn't have any parents and another one had been abandoned. He takes food out to them and had just taken one downtown and got him some new clothes."

"But he also said, 'You can't adopt all the kids in Saigon,' which is pretty bad and pretty true."

"I've found out a lot of things I wondered about when we decided to come over. And I'll have a lot of things to tell people when we get back home."

And then he turned back to a fresh group of men in sweaty fatigues who were ready for a fresh barrage of questions about the dragsters.

Once again, Big Daddy was in his element—but this time it was something a little more special than a horde of watchers in the pits at a drag strip.

"It's a lot different," he smiled, "a whole lot different."

golf

By BILL BECK

No Better Memorial

ATLANTA, Ga.—Considering the circumstances, there is not much in the little Georgian clubhouse at Augusta National Golf Club in Augusta, Ga., to call attention to Bobby Jones.

If memory serves, there is a portrait painted in oil. And then the little footlocker behind the gallery on the second floor. It is no different than any other except that a close look at the polished brass plate on the front of it discloses that it is locker No. 1 and it is reserved for Robert Tyre Jones, Jr.

It was there that prior to 1948, Jones once sat, sans clothing, to pull on his socks, secure in the knowledge that another brass plate on the gallery stairs made it clear that no ladies are allowed above the first floor.

For all his records and for all the stir he caused, chances are that as time passes, Jones may be best remembered as the man who invented the Masters golf championship. He could have no better living memorial.

December 18, the remarkably tenacious hold that Jones had on life gave way and although he remained a legend, he ceased to be a living one. No doubt it came as a relief to him for he had suffered acutely for at least 22 years. He weighed no more than 80 pounds at the time of his death.

Eight-Year Span

Jones, one of the Big Four of the Golden Era of American sports, died in his sleep at the age of 69. The immediate cause of death was an abdominal aneurism leading to heart failure.

In the roaring '20s, Jones was worshipped as a great athlete, especially after he became the first (and only) American amateur to win the British Open in 1926.

He was regarded as a symbol of American supremacy in all sports in the fierce nationalism of the day along with heavyweight boxing champion Jack Dempsey, home-run king Babe Ruth and the all-conquering Bill Tilden in tennis.

Jones turned this adulation into near-frenzy when he scored golf's first and only grand slam in 1930 by winning the British and United States Open titles and the British and U. S. Amateur crowns.

In all, Jones won 13 major golf championships—five U. S. Amateurs, four U. S. Opens, three British Opens and that 1930 British Amateur which made his slam possible. And this astonishing collection of victories came in a span of only eight years.

Lopsided Defeat

He was only 28 when he won his grand slam and was regarded as the epitome of amateurism. But Jones, along with his father, was deeply involved in land investment, especially in Florida, where the deepening depression hit the hardest.

So Jones, having no more worlds to conquer, accepted a contract to make instructional films on golf. After that, he was a "business man golfer" and it was in that role that the world discovered that his skills had begun to desert him.

In the early 1930s, he agreed to play a 72-hole stake match with professional Walter Hagen, 36 holes at a development near Sarasota, Fla., in which Jones and his father had an interest, and 36 more the next day in St. Petersburg, Fla., where Hagen had invested.

Hagen scored a lopsided victory and it was then that the world learned of a worsening condition in Jones' back.

There was disagreement among diagnosticians as to the cause of Jones' ailment. The result, though, was syringomyelia, which is defined as a chronic disease of the spinal cord leading to spastic and sensory disturbances.

Jones was told at various times that the ailment resulted from an injury he had suffered in a locker room accident in England at the peak of his career. He also was told he had suffered from the disease since birth.

At any rate, his co-ordination was rapidly eroded, although he continued to make appearances in selected tournaments until 1948. Surgery at that time and again in 1950 failed to correct his condition and he was doomed to be confined to a wheelchair for the last tortured years of his life.

Low 80s at 11

Jones was born on St. Patrick's Day of 1902 at Atlanta and he began to play golf at East Lake at the age of six. He could shoot in the low 80s consistently at the age of 11 and played in his first U. S. Amateur at the age of 14.

Graduated in engineering from Georgia Tech, Jones later got a Bachelor of Science degree at Harvard and a degree in law at Emory University in Atlanta. His main profession was that of an attorney in Atlanta.

In his real estate dealings, Jones had come across a beautiful tree nursery in Augusta. He formed a national syndicate and bought the tract and constructed the Augusta National Golf Club there. It was his pride and joy.

"She (the course) is like a woman," he told friends. "She's capricious and unpredictable. You can't push her around or overpower her. If you try, she'll strike back. You have to cajole and coddle her."

Jones started the Masters tournament for the benefit of professionals who in those days often were treated as menials. He set the first tournament in the spring when the players had no place to go. The \$10,000 prize he put up was unheard of in those days. The players were treated like kings.

Ceremonial Starter

Unfortunately, his own skills were so far gone that he never was a factor in the Masters, although he continued to make ceremonial starts until 1948.

Jones married Mary Malone in 1924. There were three children, Clara Malone, Robert Tyre III and Mary Ellen.

He served as a colonel in World War II and afterward he became active in the Republican party, serving as a fund raiser for the presidential campaign of Dwight Eisenhower.

They became fast friends and after his election, Eisenhower frequently visited Augusta National for scheduled rounds of golf as Jones' guest.

Four years ago, Jones gave his medals and trophies to the United States Golf Association and they will be suitably displayed.

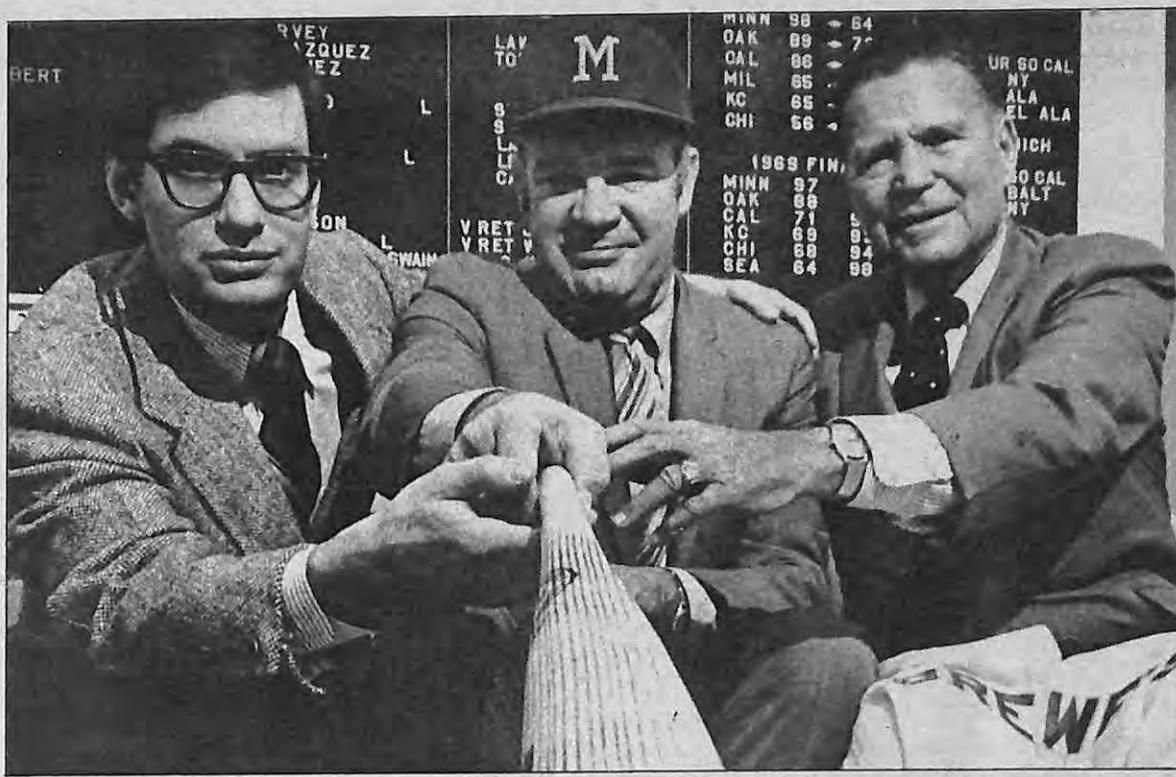
But the Masters tournament itself and the beautiful Augusta National will remain the most meaningful shrine.

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HARVEY KUENN with Bud Selig (left), Brewer president, and Frank Lane, general man-

ager . . . There will be a five-year delay in Harvey's Hall of Fame candidacy.

Mistake on Shrine Ballot; Kuenn Declared Ineligible

By JACK LANG

NEW YORK, N. Y.—The 1972 Hall of Fame ballots were no sooner placed in the mails when it was discovered that one of the four new players listed—former batting champ Harvey Kuenn—is ineligible.

Kuenn, it develops, disqualified himself by being placed on the active roster of the Brewers for 30 days last September. Although he did not appear in a game, the fact that he was on an active roster in Organized Ball forces Kuenn's removal from the ballot.

According to the Hall of Fame rules, a player must be inactive "as a player" for five full seasons before becoming eligible for election.

By allowing himself to be reactivated, Kuenn violated that rule.

Red-faced officials of the Hall of Fame and the Baseball Writers' Association of America explained how it came to pass that Kuenn's name appeared on the ballots distributed in mid-December.

The names of players (with 10 years experience in the majors and retired for five years) are supplied to the BBWAA each summer by the Hall of Fame. These names then are distributed to a BBWAA Screening Committee which narrows down the list of worthy candidates.

List Compiled in August

The Screening Committee made its decisions in late August and the ballots were printed for December distribution. The fact that Kuenn had reactivated himself never occurred to anyone when the ballots were mailed out. After all, he had not appeared in a game.

But a query from a Detroit newspaper resulted in a referral of the matter to the Executive Committee of the Hall of Fame and Kuenn was ruled ineligible.

Kuenn first was hired as a batting instructor-coach for the Brewers and then was added to the active roster in September in order to increase

his pension benefits.

Major league clubs are allowed to carry four coaches eligible for the pension plan. The Brewers already had four coaches so Kuenn could not be added in that category.

General Manager Frank Lane, who once traded home-run champ Rocky Colavito for batting champ Kuenn, decided to place Kuenn on the active roster instead.

Kuenn had 14 years and 24 days vested in the pension plan prior to the start of the 1971 season. He now had 14 years and 54 days.

Inasmuch as 43 days constitute one quarter of a season on the pension plan, Kuenn now qualifies for an extra quarter of benefits.

At age 65, it means he will be eligible for \$765 monthly instead of \$760.

The extra \$5 he picks up also forces him to wait another five years before he is eligible for the Hall of Fame again.

Shrine Rule Leaves Kuenn Laughing

By LARRY WHITESIDE

MILWAUKEE, Wis.—Harvey Kuenn of the Brewers never did show much emotion, not even when he was winning batting titles or wearing out opposing pitchers. But just ask him about the Hall of Fame, and he'll crack up every time.

Kuenn broke into laughter the other day when the word reached him that he would not be eligible for election to the Hall of Fame for another five years. Now any other player with a .306 career average and an American League batting title to his credit might have been miffed, but not Harvey.

"I can wait," said Kuenn, 40, with a laugh. "I don't think I would get too much consideration at this time, anyway."

Jack Lang, secretary of the Baseball Writers' Association of America, tended to agree with him. "I think it's all a tempest in a teapot," said Lang.

Kuenn was disqualified from the list of candidates, even though he retired in 1966, because he was placed on the Brewers' active roster last September 2, about a month

after the list was compiled. Kuenn never appeared in a game for Milwaukee and was later made a coach.

The switch was made to improve his pension benefits, mostly. He was made an active player because the Brewers at the time already had four coaches. Kuenn stayed on the list for 28 days—to the end of the season—when he replaced Carl Ermer as coach. Ironically, he not only didn't get into a game as a pinch-hitter but left the parent club September 17 to join the Brewers' team in the Arizona Instructional League.

On Active Roster

Lang said it made no difference whether Kuenn had played for the Brewers. The fact that he was on the active roster made him ineligible under rules of voting.

"It was kind of ridiculous that he should have given up a chance for election for a few dollars," said Lang. "But the rules are the rules, and they say a man must not participate in baseball for at least five years."

Lang said Kuenn's case was not

as regrettable as that of Warren Spahn, former Milwaukee Braves' star, who retired from baseball in 1965. He played in two minor league games in 1966 and three in 1967.

Brewer Taps: When the Brewers announced the nine non-roster players who would join them in spring training next year, veteran Roberto Pena was conspicuous by his absence on the list. Pena, who was released outright, in 1970 was the Brewers' regular shortstop, and had the highest fielding percentage in the American League. But after only six games in 1971, he was replaced by rookie Rick Auerbach, who had better range and a strong arm. Pena, relegated to a reserve role, played 50 games at first base, 37 at third and only 23 at shortstop last season.

Age wasn't a factor apparently, since the Brewers also invited back 36-year-old Dick Schofield. Also invited were outfielder Al Yates and pitcher Jim Hannan, who like Schofield played with the parent club in 1971. Also included are farmhands Bill Leinheiser, Gene Ammann, Earl Stephenson, Leslie Scott and Gary Ryerson, all pitchers.



Wells Twombly

Jocko Bored; Too Much Golf, Football

PHOENIX, Ariz.—The cactus is quaint and the desert breezes are sweetly seductive. There are plenty of opportunities to play golf, if that is all a man really wants out of the remainder of his life. Pension checks arrive regularly. So do stock dividends and social security payments. The retirement home is more than comfortable; it borders on elegant. A color television set brings football straight into the living room. But that is not enough.

What is a baseball man to do? The crowds are too far away and there is nobody nearby who would like to come over and spend the afternoon mourning modern trends that threaten to alter, in the slightest way, the grand old game.

So Jocko Conlan slumps in his easy chair, trying to enjoy the wistful humor of nearby Camelback Mountain and attempting to convince himself that golf is not a silly game. The hours creep past with a merciless lack of haste, when all you really want is the sound of a baseball bat making contact. What a pretty sound that is, better than Mozart or Chopin. It is both soothing and relaxing at the same time.

Enough years have passed so that you may not be readily familiar with Jocko. He was once a baseball player of modest talent, good enough to appear in only a few major league matches. But that wasn't what nature designed for him to be. God wanted Jocko to be an umpire. And that is exactly what he became. He was more than just an ordinary official. He was exactly what Hollywood script writers of the 1930s and 1940s would have you believe an umpire was. Conlan performed his task with such an unholly dedication that some managers suspected that the devil had him by the ear lobes.

Still evergreen in the memory is a scene at home plate with Leo Durocher and Jocko Conlan kicking each other skillfully in the shin bones, like two schoolyard scufflers. It was kick for kick, and it lasted nearly 10 minutes. Neither would stop and there are those critics who suggest that the umpire, being the man theoretically in charge, let the situation get out of hand.

He's Starving for More Baseball

"God, I hate being retired," Jocko was saying one afternoon not long ago. "I only get one baseball game a week on television. That's not near enough. When the teams are here for spring training, I'm happy. I like watching the football games on television. I don't say I understand it, exactly, but I like it. It's tough for me. I get one baseball game a week on the TV and I can get five or six football games. That's somebody's idea of purgatory, huh?"

Golf has been a recent affliction, born out of boredom, no doubt. When Jocko was playing the game of baseball, he had this annual offer from the makers of Louisville Slugger bats. In return for endorsing a special Jocko Conlan model bat, he had his choice of rewards, either \$50 cold cash or a matched set of golf clubs. He could even have had clubs built for a lefthander like himself. He almost always took the money.

"Then one year my brother, who was lefthanded, too, begged me to take the clubs. He said they were worth far more than \$50. I thought he was crazy, but it was true. He paid me \$50. I asked for the clubs, which I then turned over to him. After that, I always took the clubs and sold them to somebody for more than \$50. I kind of wish I'd kept one set for myself. My brother is a contented golfer and I'm just learning the game."

"I tell you, learning golf at my age is frustrating. My only consolation is that my ex-boss, the former president of the National League, the Honorable Warren Giles, said he's had the same experience."

Age has not withered nor has custom staled Jocko's infinite dislike for Leo Durocher. They remain blood enemies—even now. That public brawl was no little moment-of-passion thing. It was real. They could not pass each other in the lobby at the winter meetings here last month without growling out of the corners of their mouths at each other. Umpires consider managers to be the enemy and vice versa. There never was a more umpire-ish umpire than Jocko, nor a more manager-ish manager than Leo. Their vendetta was predictable and unavoidable.

Rule Book? Leo Never Heard of It

"The players never read the rule book," said Jocko, "and you expect that. But you'd think a manager would occasionally see if there wasn't something interesting in there. Leo is one of the all-time worst offenders. I don't think he even knows there is a rule book."

There was a story involved, naturally. Once upon a time, when Durocher was evil-genius-in-residence for the New York Giants at that wonderful old Manhattan museum, the Polo Grounds, it was necessary for the home team to make a pitching change. A righthanded batter was at the plate, so Leo whistled for a righthander to replace his lefty starter.

"I let him bring a guy all the way in from the bullpen," said Jocko, "because that was okay under the rules. Nothing against it, whatsoever. Any school kid knows that. The guy stood on the mound and threw his warm-up pitches. Now the other team sends in a lefthanded pinch-hitter. Leo jumps up and signals for a lefthanded reliever."

"I just stood there behind home plate laughing while this new guy comes in from the bullpen. And the bullpen at the Polo Grounds is located just outside Bridgeport, Conn., it is that far away. The new pitcher walks all that way. When he reaches the mound, I have the pleasure of telling the genius in the New York dugout that a relief pitcher has to throw to at least one batter. So the lefthander has to turn around and walk back and Leo has to go send for the righthander who is on the way to the showers by now."

Rules are rules and Jocko admits that he violated one of them constantly. They kept changing the strike zone around—on paper. But Conlan always called a strike if he "felt" one had been thrown.

"They used to say that it had to be a strike if the pitch was 'under the armpits,'" he said, biting his tongue. "Now how are you going to tell where the armpits are when a man is wearing one of those baggy baseball suits? It's impossible. A strike is a strike. You can sense it."

There is one other thing: Jocko opposed Satchel Paige's special election to the Hall of Fame, but not on racial lines. He insisted that he once batted against a Negro pitcher named Bullet Joe Logan who made Satch seem slow in comparison. Therefore, Paige should not have made it before Logan did. One thing about Conlan, even in retirement, he always has an opinion. Right, Leo?

Ellis Awaiting Spring Test of Aching Elbow

By CHARLEY FEENEY

PITTSBURGH, Pa. — Dock Ellis was disappointed. He ordered a large steak for lunch and the waitress said there was no steak on the lunch menu.

But Dock didn't walk out of the restaurant. He reserves walking out for hotels that don't have big beds.

"I'll have a hot roast beef sandwich," Ellis countered.

There was a sportswriter and Bill Guilfoile, the Pirates' public relations man, at lunch with Ellis.

"What can you write about me?" Ellis asked the sportswriter. "I haven't got any news."

"Have you ever been sorry for anything you said?" the writer asked Ellis.

"No," he said. "I always say what I think and I believe I'll keep on doing it."

Many fans in Pittsburgh have become disenchanted with Dock, a 19-game winner who, when his elbow isn't acting up, is the No. 1 pitcher on the Pirates' staff.

"Does the boozing bother you?" Ellis was asked.

Fans Have Their Rights

"Not at all," he said. "The fans have a right to do what they want."

There has been some talk in Pittsburgh that next season fans will stay away from the park on the days that Ellis is slated to pitch.

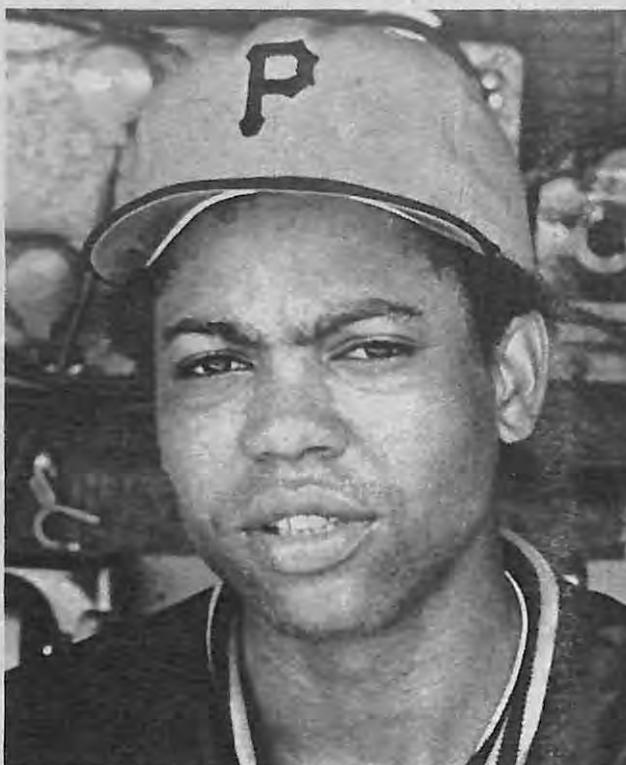
"I don't think it will happen," Ellis said. "The fans don't come to see an individual win. They come to see a team win."

Dock had two cracks at 20 victories after he won his 19th game, beating the Cardinals September 15 in Pittsburgh.

Any regrets about not winning 20?

"No," he said. "The 19th win was the big one. That's the one that crushed the Cardinals. They were dead after that one."

Ellis went seven innings in a 4-1 decision over the Cards, who slipped 8½ games behind the Pirates.



Dock Ellis . . . He's Never Sorry.

There were times last season when Ellis' aching elbow kept him out of the rotation. He didn't pitch after the first World Series game. It was the second year that the elbow sidelined the 26-year-old righthander.

"I'm not going to throw a baseball until spring training," Ellis said. "I don't know if that will help or not."

In Washington, at a Senate subcommittee hearing concerning sickle cell anemia, Ellis reportedly said that his arm troubles may have been caused by that ailment.

"It wasn't really that way," Ellis said. "I was testifying and I was asked if it was possible that sickle cell anemia could have led to my arm trouble. I said it was possible."

Ellis said he does not have sickle cell anemia, but he added, "I'm a carrier. I think some people on my father's side of the family had it."

Dock Is Murtaugh Booster

Whenever Ellis rapped the Pirate brass, he always made it plain that he was a Danny Murtaugh man.

What about Bill Virdon?

"I think he will do the job," Ellis said. "I think he will be a lot like Murtaugh. Virdon has been with us. He knows the ball club."

Ellis spent two weeks in Vietnam on a good-will tour speaking to servicemen last month.

What about Vietnam?

"I don't want to answer questions about Vietnam," Ellis said. "I don't want to get political."

Ellis watched the sportswriter taking notes.

"Am I still news?" he asked as he took the last bite out of his roast beef sandwich. Not once did he complain because it wasn't steak.

Pittsburghers: The Pirates are seeking a manager for their Charleston club in the International League. Joe Morgan became an ex-Charleston manager when Virdon named him the Pirates' fifth coach. Morgan, a fringe infielder with five major league clubs several years ago, will help Virdon with the hitters and also work with the infielders. . . . Nelson Briles is doing a fine job as a TV sportscaster in Pittsburgh. . . . Bob Moose's wife, Alberta, presented him with a baby girl in early December. The new addition is named April.

More Flags Will Follow, Giants' Film Forecasts

By PAT FRIZZELL

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—The Giants' annual promotional motion picture, available for groups to show in the San Francisco Bay Area, carries an optimistic title.

It's called "More Flags to Follow!"

Horace Stoneham, Charlie Fox and the rest of the Giants, from top to bottom, hope this will prove prophetic.

The film, a 25-minute collection of 1971 action pictures, was pre-

viewed by club officials, 10 players, the press and radio and various others close to the team at a San Francisco hotel.

"Too bad there were so many shots of Gaylord Perry," remarked one viewer, noting that Perry won't be with the 1972 Giants.

"So what?" asked another. "Gaylord had a lot to do with our winning the Western Division championship. He has to be in the picture, and prominently."

Ken Allen and his son, Mark, put the film together, as in past years. It's in color and sound.

Fox on Hand

FOX, THE SPORTING NEWS manager of the year, came to San Francisco from his winter home in Phoenix for the preview luncheon and discussed the future.

"We're going to be better next season than we were in 1971," Charlie predicted. "We're going to try

to improve. We've made a deal that was hard to make—Gaylord Perry for Sam McDowell—and we'd still like to trade for another pitcher.

"But if we don't get another, we'll just pitch another of our youngsters.

"We have a lot of good ones. Don Carrithers should be outstanding, for one.

"Everybody did a great job in 1971, but we're looking toward 1972. Our young players got a taste of

success and can continue right on next season.

"I think we can win the division championship earlier than the last day of the race, when we had to do it in '71."

Despite his confidence, Charlie warned listeners not to expect everything.

"Impatient fans may have to be told to wait a year or two," the manager conceded, "for some things. We're definitely not going to trade away our valuable young players just to strengthen the club for one season."

"We've had opportunities to make a number of trades, but other clubs always seem to want too many of our best young players."

Youngsters on Display

The promotional film shows these young Giants—Bobby Bonds, Ken Henderson, Chris Speier, Al Gallagher—in impressive action.

The movie includes scenes of San Francisco's division-title clinching party—but doesn't leave out the Giants' defeat in the Championship Series finale in Pittsburgh. Surprisingly, there are views of Giant errors and collisions as well as outstanding catches and run-scoring hits.

On hand at the preview were Henderson, Gallagher, Carrithers, Tito Fuentes, Jerry Johnson, Russ Gibson, Ron Bryant, Rich Robertson, Steve Stone and Jim Barr.

Also present were coach John McNamara; Jim Davenport, who'll return as manager of the Giants' Phoenix (Pacific Coast) farm club, and Jack Hiatt, ex-Giant catcher now with the Houston Astros, a popular resident of the San Francisco area.

Several Giants living in the Bay Area—Willie Mays, Willie McCovey, Hal Lanier and Speier—had left to conduct clinics in Hawaii and missed the preview luncheon.

Most of the Giants who attended are making off-season appearances on behalf of the club at various functions in this area.

(Continued on Page 32, Column 4)



WILLIE MAYS, looking forward to his 22nd major league season, was a picture of domestic bliss when a photographer visited Willie and his new bride, Mae Louise, in their 18-room home in Atherton, Calif. At left, the Giants' captain



and wife prepare to listen to a recording on their sophisticated stereo set. At right, Willie sizes up his wife's pouring technique as he awaits a cup of coffee. They were married recently in Mexico City.

Bahnsen Expects to Shine in White Sox Uniform

By JEROME HOLTZMAN

CHICAGO, Ill. — A change of scenery can be beneficial. This is the conclusion reached by right-handed pitcher Stan Bahnsen and his wife, Connie, both of whom are pleased to be joining the White Sox family.

The Sox acquired Bahnsen in a trade with the Yankees. His first reaction, Bahnsen said, was one of "shock and surprise." However, he admitted that the more he's thought about it, the more excited he has become.

"My wife and I are glad about the trade," said Bahnsen. "It's a chance to meet new people. We're both looking forward to it."

The White Sox, of course, also are looking forward to seeing Bahnsen and have big plans for him. He definitely will be in the club's starting rotation along with knuckleballer Wilbur Wood and Tom Bradley.

It isn't that Bahnsen necessarily was displeased with the Yankees. He had been Yankee property all the way—since turning professional in 1965—but he conceded that the challenge of a new club may help make him a big winner.

17 Wins in '68

Bahnsen has had what could be described as only one "big year." This was in 1968 when he was 17-12 and won the American League's Rookie of the Year award. His victory total dropped to nine in 1969. He won 14 in '70 and matched that figure again this past season.

"It's a break for me, really," Bahnsen said. "In the Yankees' division (the East), Baltimore is so strong I don't think anyone can challenge them for a couple of years. But in the West Division, I think Chicago is really coming along."

Then Bahnsen added, "And I think the addition of Richie Allen (who

also came to the White Sox in a winter deal) will give Chicago a good-looking club."

"The White Sox will be just as strong, offensively, as Oakland or Minnesota."

Bahnsen said he was looking forward to joining Manager Chuck Tanner and Johnny Sain, the White Sox pitching coach.

"I didn't know Sain when he was with the Yankees," Bahnsen said. "But I've heard a lot about him. All the pitchers I've talked to tell me he's helped them."

"I know Tom Bradley looked a lot better last year when he was with Chicago," Bahnsen said. "He looked like twice the pitcher he'd been the year before. I don't know how much Sain had to do with it, but I imagine he helped him."

Bahnsen said he figured the Yankees probably would use him in a deal but that he thought he'd wind

up with either the Angels or the Red Sox.

"I had heard I was going to the Angels in a deal for (Jim) Fregosi," Bahnsen said. "And when that didn't happen, I thought the Red Sox would get me. I've pitched some of my best ball against Boston."

Seldom Faced Chisox

Strangely, Bahnsen didn't pitch a single inning against the White Sox this past season. Moreover, he has seen limited action against them during his four years in the majors.

Bahnsen, in all, has worked almost 1,000 major league innings—986 to be exact—but only 45 of them have been against the White Sox. He was 1-0 against them in 1968 and 1969 and 0-2 in 1970.

"I feel I should be pitching every fourth day," Bahnsen said. "I've always wanted to do that, but I didn't do it with the Yankees. They usually had a five-man rotation."



Stan Bahnsen

Natural Turf in Dodger Stadium a Joy to Tommy John

By BOB HUNTER

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—Tommy John was delighted, he said, to become a Dodger and, of course, Walter Alston is just as delighted to have the ex-White Sox lefthander, who won 14 games last season.

However, John's most vivid memory of Dodger Stadium is one that almost caused a trauma at the time. He had a no-hitter for seven innings against the Angels, who were sharing Walter O'Malley's showplace at the time.

But when the game ended, the Angels had a 1-0 victory and Tommy had a headache.

"I'm glad I'll be pitching there for the Dodgers, though," said John from his new home in Scottsdale. "When they installed artificial turf in Chicago they made it tough on our pitchers. And we didn't have the fastest defense in the world, either."

He thinks Dodger Stadium is built for his type of pitching, which is a reasonable theory. Also, the Dodger defense won't hurt him.

An oddity in this era of freak pitches, John will report to Vero Beach equipped only with a fast ball, curve and change, which acts something like a screwball, although he is quick

to explain, "It never will challenge Jim Brewer's."

He broke into baseball in 1961 with the Cleveland chain and had a fork ball, which he immediately was instructed to stick in his hip pocket—and he hasn't removed it since.

Cage Offers Poured In

Another oddity in the life of John is that he was offered 35 basketball scholarships when he graduated from high school in Indiana—but only one baseball scholarship, to the University of Illinois. The No. 1 student in his prep graduating class of 230 currently is one of baseball's better golfers.

Now the slender southpaw is ready to launch a new chapter in his career.

"I'm looking forward to pitching for Walter Alston," said John. "I've never met him, but I join with everyone in a tremendous respect for the man and his record."

At the same time, John admits to a curiosity as to how he will be used. He worked every fourth day last season and, at times, on the third day to coincide with Wilbur Wood's schedule. He's also done some bullpen work.

Alston now has five starters, including Bullet Bill Singer,

Claude Osteen, Don Sutton, Al Downing and John.

Last winter the Dodger manager's No. 1 need, he said, was a pitcher, and Downing was the answer. The lefthander became the National League's Comeback Player of the Year with 20 wins.

This winter Alston, because of the questions still dangling around Singer's condition, said his No. 1 need was still another hurler.

John, who hurled 229 innings last season, is Vice-President Al Campanis' answer.

Dodger Dope: Veep Red Patterson, who needed no pillow, played Santa Claus at Walter O'Malley's annual Christmas party for youngsters in the Stadium Club. Many of the players attended to make it one of the highlights of the holiday season. . . . John has made it known he would like to continue to wear uniform No. 25. That number has belonged to Joe Moeller, who was sent to Spokane (Pacific Coast) but who will be with the big club in the spring. . . . The new hurler from the White Sox went home to Terre Haute for the holidays, but planned to start throwing as soon as he returned to his home in Arizona.

Too Many Pets Spoil Bosox Pennant Brew

By LARRY CLAFLIN

BOSTON, Mass.—Much is being made in Boston these days about the toughness of Red Sox managers, or the lack of same.

Former Red Sox pitcher Jim Lonborg, now a member of the Brewers, said recently that curfews are a joke on the Red Sox. He also lamented the fact that Manager Dick Williams was not as tough in the seasons after 1967 as he was the year of the pennant.

In Phoenix, during the baseball meetings, Manager Eddie Kasko

talked of keeping a closer eye on his players.

Several Red Sox players, past and present, have grumbled in recent months about what they call "preferential treatment" for certain stars.

All of which is making many fans wonder exactly what goes with the team. Is Kasko really that soft? Are Red Sox stars shown favoritism?

A Blast From Billy

The stars who are reputed to be getting the preferential treatment deny it, of course. For example, when Billy Conigliaro accused Carl Yastrzemski of faking a back injury in order to duck the last few games of the season, Yaz reacted with a strong denial.

"Never have I known a player who talked so much and accomplished so little," Yastrzemski retorted.

Many people are inclined to blame a too-tolerant front office and a kindly owner for Red Sox problems. It is no secret that Dick Williams was bitter against Owner Tom Yawkey when he left Boston after the 1969 season.

"Mr. Yawkey can have his toy back now," Williams said bitterly.

It probably was inevitable that Kasko would suffer in comparison with Williams. Kasko is a mild-mannered, soft-spoken person. Wil-



Eddie Kasko

iams was neither when he managed in Boston.

In addition, and most important of all, Williams won the pennant his first year on the job. There was no chance Kasko could do the same. In fact, Kasko almost has no chance ever of winning a pennant with the Red Sox unless and until the Orioles come back to the fold.

That fact possibly explains this remark by Kasko after he heard the Orioles had traded Frank Robinson to the National League:

"If the Orioles make any more trades like that, we'll back into the pennant."

(Continued on Page 44, Column 2)

Sam Will Get an Early Start

(Continued From Page 31)

Fox said he had spoken by telephone recently with McDowell, who resides in Monroeville, Pa.

"Sam plans to be in Arizona 10 days before spring training starts," Charlie disclosed. "He's bet me a month's pay he'll be in better shape than any of our other pitchers."

Giant Jottings: The Giants' special promotion days in 1972 will be Sundays instead of mostly Saturdays, as in the past. This means bat day, April 23; helmet day, May 21; cap day, June 11; T-shirt day, July 16, and fan appreciation day, October 1. . . . There'll be six Sunday doubleheaders at Candlestick Park, down from eight in 1971, and two Tuesday twi-nighters, an innovation. . . . Dave Kingman, who

batted .278, clouted six homers and drove home 24 runs in 41 games with the Giants despite time out for an appendectomy, has been in National Guard basic training at Fort Ord, Calif.

Tom Kane, who covers the Giants for the Sacramento Bee, has been elected chairman of the San Francisco-Oakland chapter of the Baseball Writers' Association, succeeding Ron Bergman of the Oakland Tribune. Herb Michelson, who covers the Oakland Athletics for the Bee, has been named vice-chairman, with Dick O'Connor of the Palo Alto Times remaining secretary-treasurer. . . . Juan Marichal, like several other Giants, will spend Christmas in Hawaii with his family. Then Juan plans a trip to his native Dominican Republic and to Puerto Rico.

Willie's Bride a 'Super-Fan'

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—The new Mrs. Willie Mays says she was a "super-Mays fan" and had an autograph from Willie when she was 13 years old.

Mae Mays, the former Mae Louise Allen, was married to Willie November 27. She recalled that her mother obtained an autograph from the Giants' star in 1952.

"It was almost eight years later that a man phoned me and introduced himself as Willie Mays," she said. "I thought some kook was kidding me, the super-fan. But he persisted and invited me to a game in Pittsburgh, then to dinner."

Several years ago, Mae, a University of Pittsburgh sociology graduate, moved west to work as a child welfare specialist in the San Francisco Division of Social Services.

Willie proposed in January, 1970, according to his attractive wife. They're now living in a \$165,000, 18-room home at Atherton, Calif., not far from San Francisco.

"He slipped an engagement ring on my finger," Mae said. "Super-Fan had caught Super-Player."

ALL STARS say:



At 32, Base Thief Brock Plots More, Bigger Heists

By NEAL RUSSO

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—A guy asked Lou Brock the other day how long he figured he might be able to extend his record-breaking pace of 50 or more stolen bases a year. Larcenous Lou is up to seven years now.

Brock answered this way:

"The greatest compliment I got was the day I became 32 last June. Matty Alou was sitting next to me on the bench when he found out about it."

"Matty said, 'You're 32? Why, I'm 33 and I thought, the way you're running, you must be one of the younger guys.'"

That was the Cardinal comet's way of saying he fully intends to pick up a few hundred more thefts before he's through, despite the aches and pains that pile up when he keeps hitting the dirt. Such punishment usually takes its toll in attrition of top base stealers. Ask Maury Wills, the single-season champ.

"Oh, I might settle for 49—if we win the pennant," Brock said.

As for slowing down his theft pace, Brock said nothing doing "until somebody stops me."

You might think a guy who has done well financially off the field as well as on it maybe would sit down and figure, "What sense does it make to knock myself out with all those head-first slides when I don't have to?"

Not Lou. He likes the game too much. Maybe not quite as much as his ex-roomie with the Cubs, Ernie Banks, but how else do you explain such things as blithe spirit Lou's presence at most of the World Series games last October?

Fun-loving Lou had a great time, too, especially in Baltimore. He watched the Series incognito—with a big beard, sunglasses, blue jeans, sweatshirt and loafers. He amazed unrecognizing fans by calling shots on the field like "watch this next batter have to hit the dirt!"

Bane of N. L. Catchers

A lot of National League pitchers and catchers wish Brock could be that non-serious on the field. Lou's way of having fun on the field last season included 64 steals (in 83 tries), tops in the majors. The 64 extended his major league record of 50 or more steals to seven successive seasons. Next season he can tie Ty Cobb for most 50-steal seasons, eight.

By averaging 60 thefts a year for the last seven seasons, Brock has pushed his career total to 502. Last season he sped past 10 men, including still-active Luis Aparicio, on the all-time list, climbing to 25th place. If he happens to swipe 64 more bases next season, he'll zoom nine more notches.

Billy Hamilton leads with 937. Cobb is second with 892. Others ahead of Brock include Eddie Collins (743), Max Carey (738) and Honus Wagner (697). Also Wills, who is up to 585 after settling for 15 last season.

Stealing wasn't Brock's only forte last season, any more than it had been in previous campaigns. Lou batted .313, topped only by his .315 in 1964. He led the club in walks with 73, again proved his durability by playing in 157 games and was on base over 40 percent of the time.

What's more, Lou led the majors in runs scored with 126, his career high. He shared the National League honor in 1967 with Hank Aaron with 113. No Cardinal had led the majors by himself in runs scored since Rogers Hornsby did it back in 1922.

Getting back to the base-stealing business, Brock would have had a good shot at his career high of 74 if Alou had been separated from him in the batting order sooner. Matty Alou just doesn't like to let pitches go by, even if it means the runner will have a better chance to steal. The 64 total was Lou's second best.

Lou Seldom Gets Caught

Brock was successful 77.1 percent of the time last season. His best was 83.8 with 62 thefts in 74 tries in 1968 and his career success rate is 75.9 percent. Lou figures that anything over 70 percent is tremendous.

Here's Brock's year-by-year stealing record:

Year	SB	Caught	Pct.
1962	16	7	69.6
1963	24	12	66.7
1964	43	18	70.5
1965	63	27	70.0
1966	74	18	80.4
1967	52	18	74.3
1968	62	12	83.8
1969	53	14	79.1
1970	51	15	77.3
1971	64	19	77.1
Totals	502	160	75.9

Last season, Brock swiped 17 bases in 21 tries against the Phillies. No wonder Tim McCarver was mad enough to swing at Lou. Brock went 7-for-8 against the Astros, 9-for-11 against the Mets, 7-for-9 against the Expos, 5-for-6 against the Padres and 4-for-4 against the Giants. Only the Pirates held him as much as even. He was 1-for-2 against Manny Sanguillen, whom he rates as tough to steal on as anyone.

"Manny is serious when he asks me, 'Why don't you

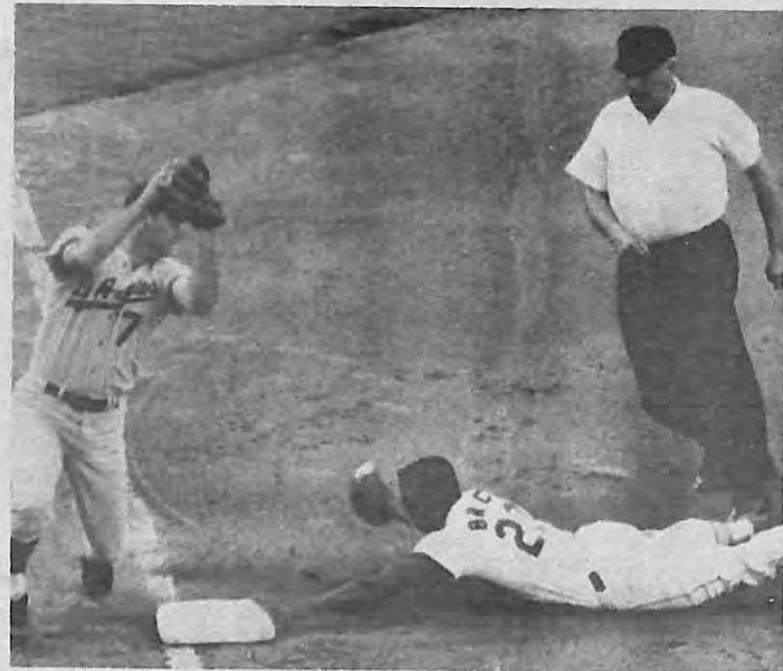
steal more on me?'" Lou said. "And I just tell him, 'Aw, shut up.'"

Brock says he is becoming the victim of his own success.

"A lot more guys are stealing bases than when I started," he said. "So the pitchers have had to work on better moves and the catchers have developed improved techniques."

Lou's off-season conditioning program: "I just try to stay alive."

Redbird Chirps: Infielder Tom Heintzelman suffered a separation in his left (non-throwing) shoulder playing touch football. Dr. Stan London, the team surgeon who did the operating, said the son of former pitcher Ken Heintzelman should be ready in time for spring training. . . . Brock thinks Cubs' coach Banks will be doing some pinch-hitting for the Cubs before the new season gets old.



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Jerome Holtzman

What Baseball Means to Steve Hamilton

CHICAGO, Ill.—Relief pitcher Steve Hamilton, an 11-year major league veteran, was interviewed last August by Studs Terkel for Terkel's latest oral history, which deals with jobs. Hamilton was asked to represent baseball. The working title for the book, to be published by Pantheon in early 1973, is "Punching In." The following is part of the Hamilton transcript:

"I've never been a big star because I've never really done anything outstanding. I've been about as good as I can be with the equipment I have. But just by being in the big leagues I played with Mickey Mantle and Whitey Ford and now I'm with the Giants (he has since been released) and with Willie Mays and Juan Marichal. I've played with a lot of great players. People always recognize them. They recognized Yogi Berra, too. He has a face you don't forget.

"A lot of us are popular heroes. Some of the kids come around and want your autograph. I don't think I've ever been a hero in my hometown, in Morehead, Ky., where I live. Everybody knows me there because it's only a town of about 4,000. I played in New York with the Yankees for eight years, and several times I'd be in Manhattan and someone would stop me and say, 'Aren't you Steve Hamilton?' It made me feel all puffed up. Whether a lot of guys will admit it or not, I think most of them feel good when they're recognized. They feel they're sort of something special. That's one part of the game I think everybody here gets a kick out of—feeling special.

"But in San Francisco nobody knows me. My hair's gray now. The other day when we were getting off a plane, a guy comes up and asked me if I was the traveling secretary. Another time, just recently, Don McMahon and I were warming up together. He's 41 years old and I'm 36 (laughs). While we were warming up, some heavy-set lady—I won't call her fat, but she didn't have any shoes on and was rather heavy—came down and said: 'Which one of you fellas is the oldest? We're having a discussion about it.'

"McMahon pointed to me and said, 'He is.' And she said, 'Well, that's what we all thought.'

"I looked at him—he's five years older than I am and he talked to me about putting this formula on my hair and turning the gray dark. I'd never done it and never thought I would. But my hair's pretty white. So I put this stuff on. It took three weeks and it turned my hair a dark sort of medium brown. Nobody noticed it except one player who had been away for a two-week camp and when he came back he said, 'What happened to your hair?' Anyway I didn't like it. It just wasn't me. I didn't feel right about it. So now I'm letting it grow out.

Slicing His Age by a Couple of Years

"Age is very important in baseball. The scout that signed me first—he signed me for Cleveland—told them I was 21. And I said, 'Yeah, I'm 21.' I was really 23. But he felt I wouldn't have a very good chance starting professional ball at 23. So I went along with him. But now if somebody asks, I always give my right age.

"Age is important because if you've got two boys, prospects of equal ability, you really can't tell who's going to make it to the big leagues and who isn't. So if I'm 23 and coming out of college and they don't think I'm ready for the big leagues at that time and there's another kid who is 20 years old, they're going to take the boy who is 20 because they think they're going to have him longer. We got a boy 20 years old playing shortstop now and he's in the big leagues already. Well, see, there's at least 10 years they can count on him being their shortstop.

"There are so many of us who sign and play. I was once told one out of every 70 boys who signs a contract makes the big leagues. Most guys quit early or never get out of the minor leagues. Some of them will play for eight, nine years in the minors and these are the guys who really love baseball. They probably deserve more adulation from the people and the fans than the guys who are up in the big leagues now.

"Once we get to the big leagues we make more money. We have a better salary, a livable wage. We're getting time on a pension plan which is a pretty good one. But the guy in the minor leagues, he's getting really nothing. He may be making \$4,000 to \$5,000 a year and if he stays long enough, he may get up to \$10,000, but he has no winter job. He becomes an organization man, someone the organization keeps because he can help young ballplayers. And age is passing by. The whole game's going right by while he's still playing in the minors.

Steve Decided to Be a Good Boy

"One of the first things my coach in college told me—when I went into professional ball—was 'Don't be a clubhouse lawyer!' Well, a clubhouse lawyer can mean a lot of different things. At the beginning, at that time, to be a clubhouse lawyer meant don't make waves, don't rock the boat, don't criticize. Just go play, do your job and be happy you're here. That stuck with me. 'Don't be a clubhouse lawyer!' I thought about that a lot, and so I was a good boy.

"There were very few people who were clubhouse lawyers and the ones who were were branded right away as being loudmouths and hotheads. They didn't care anything about the game—or that's what everyone said. They were trying to wreck the game. The 'good of the game' is what you hear so much about. But I don't think the people who say this are as interested in 'the good of the game' as the guys who play it and criticize it.

"But to be a clubhouse lawyer today means something different. It means talking behind some folks' backs. It means trying to stir up turmoil where it shouldn't be. But a person who speaks out against an injustice, a person who's open about it, a person who brings it to the owners, or to anybody who wants to hear, he's not a clubhouse lawyer. I think he's exercising his rights because finally we're getting some say in our jobs. We invest a lot in this. When you figure one in 70 to make the big leagues, well, that's a small percentage.

"I was a player representative with the Yankees for five of my eight years there and I was the American League representative for four years. I've read a history of the different players' associations. They go back to the 1800s. This is the fifth one and the strongest, the best. We've got an executive director—Marvin Miller—well, he's the most fabulous man I've ever met in my life. If I had to have one idol, probably it'd be Marvin Miller.

(Continued on Page 36, Column 4)

Date With Mao Wrecks Nixon Plan to Attend Angel Opener

By DICK MILLER

ANAHEIM, Calif.—By Act of Congress, President Nixon should be ordered to turn in his Booster Club card proclaiming him as the nation's No. 1 sports fan.

Mr. Nixon's West Coast House is in Orange County, site of Anaheim Stadium. He had tentatively been named as the starting pitcher at the Big A in 1972 in the first West Coast Presidential opener.

It can now be reliably reported Mr. Nixon has blown the assignment. His pitch now will be to Chairman Mao in China instead of from front-row box seats.

There still is a chance, assuming he sweeps his ping-pong matches from Chairman Mao at Peking, that the President will return in time to throw out the first ball in California's home opener April 14 against Texas.

A Call From White House

This is how Mr. Nixon, a third-string football tackle at Whittier College, muffed his chance for athletic glory:

Within hours after it was announced Bob Short was pulling the Senators out of Washington to go to Texas, a call was placed from the White House to Angel President Bob Reynolds.

On the other end of the line was Robert Finch, the President's counselor and former lieutenant governor of California. Another of Finch's bosses, Governor Ronald Reagan, had thrown out the first ball at Anaheim in 1968.

At the time of the Senators' move, it was announced Mr. Nixon was switching his baseball allegiance from Washington to the Angels. The President always has liked the underdog.



President Nixon

What wasn't reported was that the President had expressed interest in throwing out the first ball at Anaheim to open the '72 season. The Angels went so far as to design a special souvenir ticket.

Henry Kissinger ruined the plan. He made arrangements for the President to travel to China, probably in March or April.

"It looks like the idea is dead now," said Angel General Manager Harry Dalton. "There were a lot of problems. We open on the road and would have had to switch a game to the day before the Dodgers open at home."

"I don't think that would have worked out."

The possibility remains, if Mr. Nixon can sweep his matches from Chairman Mao, that the President will be available for the April 14 opener against the Rangers.

The owners cleared the way for a

non-Washington Presidential opener at their winter meetings in Phoenix. Rule Amendment 32-A reads:

N. L. Situation Unchanged

"Gives the American League the right to name a club which may schedule a game on the day prior to the opening of the championship season."

The National League's right to do this remains unchanged.

Angel Notebook: The continuing story of Tony Conigliaro: Dalton already has shown Gene Autry why he was named Major League Executive of the Year in 1970. It was reported here that if Tony C. decides to play next season, he will have to be given his same contract (about \$80,000), less a 20 percent cut. Wrong. By assigning the outfielder to Salt Lake City, Dalton can bring him back for the minimum—\$12,500. That also makes Tony easier to trade if he decides to return. . . . Most major league coaches do two things: hit fungos and spend their meal money. That's why the Angels' decision to hire Bobby Winkles away from Arizona State is so impressive. . . . Bobby is accustomed to teaching fundamentals to entire teams by himself.

Del Rice filled his second coaching vacancy as expected with the naming of Harry (Peanuts) Lowrey as his third base coach. . . . Since the winter meetings at Phoenix set the tempo in the trading market, the Cubs and Angels, in effect, traded third base coaches with Pete Reiser returning to Chicago and Lowrey switching to Anaheim. . . . It turns out that Warren Spahn not only will not become the pitching coach but was never a candidate. . . . A phone-call to Spahn from his old friend, Gene Autry, had set off speculation.

Weaver Seeks Lefty Hitter for O's

By PHIL JACKMAN

BALTIMORE, Md.—While the Orioles' announced intention this winter was to get a relief pitcher, actions spoke louder than words. If anything, the club appeared to be moving in another direction. And it wasn't without Manager Earl Weaver's blessing.

Shortly after Frank Robinson and Pete Richert had been dealt to the Dodgers, Curt Motton had been sold to Milwaukee. Dick Hall had indicated he probably will retire and Clay Dalrymple decided he would follow suit, Weaver said:

"We have to get a lefthanded hitter. And I mean a good lefthanded hitter. Look how the righthanders, (Steve) Blass and (Bruce) Kison and (Nelson) Briles, handled us in the World Series.

"If righthanders stop Boog (Powell), we're in trouble. We're not that good a hitting club. It's going to be tough scratching for runs unless we come up with a guy."

Buckner Not Available

During negotiations with the Dodgers, the O's were known to be interested in Bill Buckner, but scout Jim Russo said, "There's no way we'll get him away from L.A."

Such a statement seemed pretty strange in view of the fact the California Angels reportedly turned down an offer of Buckner, Claude Osteen and other considerations for 20-game winner Andy Messersmith.

But this wasn't the only inconsistency in Baltimore's first month at sea without Harry Dalton.

While Weaver kept talking about the need for a lefthanded hitter, Vice-President Frank Cashen pressed on for a reliever no better than the arms the O's have in their bullpen.

"that Alexander will give Harrison (15-5 at Rochester in '71) a run for his money for a spot on the staff."

Chances are six spots on the 25-man roster will be open, held previously by Robinson, Motton, Richert, Hall, Dalrymple and either Jerry DaVon or Chico Salmon.

Baylor, Grich and Oates grab three, with pitchers taking a pair, and the elusive lefty hitter the last.

Motton, who didn't get to play much last year while batting .189, nevertheless won a playoff game for the Birds against Vida Blue.

Another Deal for Curt?

Called one of the best hitters in the league by roommate Ellie Hendricks, Motton went to Milwaukee for cash and a player to be named later.

Seeing as how the Brewers already had a righty and lefty-hitting outfield at the time of purchase, Motton surmised Milwaukee may include him in another deal.

Bird Banter: The relief pitchers the Orioles were thinking and talking about as the interleague trading period ended were Mike Marshall, Tony Cloninger, Fred Gladding and Joe Hoerner, who combined for a 16-24 record and 44 saves last summer. Two months ago, Weaver looked at these names and said, "Not good enough." . . . Frank Robinson on his trade to L.A.: "I really appreciate the effort the Orioles made to trade me to L.A. because I know other clubs offered Baltimore more established players for me." . . . Jim Palmer on the same trade: "Earl Weaver knows what he's doing in most cases, so here he might know what he's doing."

Royal Chance for Lemon In Hall of Fame Balloting

By JOE McGUFF

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—To some it may seem that Bob Lemon suffered from an Avis syndrome in 1971. His Royals were second in the American League West, he finished second in balloting for Manager of the Year in the American League and second in the Manager of the Year poll conducted by THE SPORTING NEWS.

Even though Lemon failed to win any awards, the second-place finishes constituted a tribute to his managerial ability. They also may have a favorable side effect in another area—the annual balloting for the Hall of Fame.

The Hall of Fame voting in no way resembles a popularity contest, but at the same time, a candidate's accomplishments are more likely to be remembered if his name is before the public.

Lemon's qualifications for the Hall of Fame are outstanding, but he is a man totally lacking in flamboyance and never has received the support to which he is entitled.

Lemon was nearly 26 when he reached the majors. He was in the minors for five years, laboring as an outfielder-third baseman. He spent three years in military service during World War II. Bob joined the Indians in 1946 but did not become a full-time pitcher until he was well into the 1947 season.

Bob Won 207 Games

Despite this late start, Lemon logged 207 career victories in the majors against only 128 losses. He ranks 18th among all 200-game winners in lifetime percentage with a mark of .618. Of the 17 pitchers with better percentages, 13 are already in the Hall of Fame. The four who have not gained admission are Carl Mays, Robert Caruthers, Whitey Ford and Juan Marichal.

Caruthers pitched before the turn of the century. He had a record of 217-101 for .682. Mays won 208 and lost 126 for a percentage of .623. Ford is not yet eligible for the Hall of Fame and Marichal is still active.



Bob Lemon

Ford's record was 236-106—.690. Marichal's record is 221-109—.670.

Lemon is one of only four American League pitchers who won 20 or more games seven times. From 1949 through 1951 he won 20, 22 and 23. He dropped off to 17 victories in 1952. From 1948 through 1950 he won 22, 21 and 23. He won 18 games in 1955 and had his last big year in 1956 when he won 20.

Five Won Fewer Games

Of the 32 pitchers in the Hall of Fame, 17 have percentages that are lower than Lemon's. Five Hall of Famers have won fewer games than Lemon. They are Jack Chesboro (198 victories), Dizzy Dean (150), Dazzy Vance (197), Rube Waddell (191) and Ed Walsh (195).

Lemon pitched in four World Series games, winning two of them. He appeared in four All-Star games. On three occasions he was named the righthanded pitcher on THE SPORTING NEWS' major league All-Star team.

No less a hitter than Ted Williams rates Lemon among the toughest pitchers he ever faced.

At the peak of his career, Lemon could do everything. He was an outstanding fielder and a robust hitter for a pitcher, even though he didn't hit well enough to make it in the majors as a third baseman. Lemon won his 200th career victory on Sep-

tember 11, 1956. He did it by hitting a two-run homer to gain a 3-1 triumph.

Lemon was all business on the mound. He wasted no time, seldom argued with umpires and was always ready for his turn in the rotation. He had no arm trouble until near the end of his career. Bob had a sinking fast ball, a slider and a big curve. These pitches, plus outstanding control and an ideal temperament, were his great assets.

Anger Was Costly

"I can't afford to get mad," Lemon once said. "When I do, my reaction is to throw the ball as hard as I can. When I do that, I lose something off my pitches."

Although he was an intense competitor, Lemon rarely let his feelings show after a tough loss.

"When I lose one, I think about all the easy ones I've won," Lemon explained.

By all of the standards that have been set down, Lemon belongs in the Hall of Fame. His support in recent years has not been strong but now perhaps more voters will take time to look at his record.

Royals' Notes: Dick Drago, a 17-game winner last season, has been named Kansas City's Pitcher of the Year in a vote conducted among writers and broadcasters who cover the Royals' games. Drago will be honored at the first annual Kansas City Baseball Awards Dinner, which will be held January 23. Drago's 17 victories represent an all-time high for a Kansas City pitcher. The previous record was 16 by Bud Daley. . . . Steve Blass of the Pirates will be honored at the dinner as the hero of the 1971 World Series.

The Royals have signed a contract to fly exclusively with Ozark Airlines next season. This will be the third straight year they have done all of their flying on Ozark charters. The Royals flew 27,630 miles in 1970 and 28,401 miles last season. Their total mileage next season will be 34,996.



Jerome Holtzman

(Continued From Page 35)

"For a while not everybody worried about the association. If you're a big star making \$50,000 or \$80,000 or \$100,000, lots of times you could care less. That was the attitude of a lot of the big stars—not all of 'em. But that's changing now, too. Like Willie Mays. He was the Giants' meal ticket. Why would Willie want to kick? They pay him \$100,000 and he's not going to knock them because they're treating him pretty good. And maybe he's getting preferential treatment. I don't know.

"Those kind of guys don't kick. It's the guy who's making the minimum salary. If he kicks, nobody listens to him. They say he's just bitter because he's not making more money or he isn't a big star. See, everybody listens to the guy who is successful. Nobody listens to the little man. That's why in the Players Association one voice is as important as the other.

"In our association we hear the little guy. We hear the guy that makes \$15,000, the guy making \$30,000 and the guy making \$80,000. Each vote is the same. Two years ago we had a big meeting in New York; 125 players showed up. We had some real big stars, big names. We were going to boycott spring training and they all came in and voiced their opinions. Great! They were interested. They cared about what happened to the younger players and the guys who weren't making much money, the borderline players. And it was a revelation to me and I really felt good about it. I still feel good about it.

Whitey Knew When He'd Had It

"The greatest pitcher I ever knew was Whitey Ford. He was the same person every day, win or lose, and he won a lot more games than he lost. I was with him at the end of his career, when he walked off the mound one night in Detroit. When we got to the clubhouse, he was gone—and so were his clothes. He packed up and went home. He knew he'd had it. Now, Whitey Ford wasn't self-centered. He was one of the most feeling guys I've known. He could feel. He was interested in your well-being.

"But I've known other guys and it's everything to them to win. It's the whole ball of wax. If they don't win, it's a waste. These are the guys, most of 'em, who are very self-centered, egotistical, selfish guys because they're concerned only with themselves.

"Baseball and life are so close because what I did yesterday in baseball doesn't help me a bit on what I've got to do today or tomorrow. Life's the same way. If I made a good play yesterday, if I made a good life and I'd done well the day before in teaching school and I come out today, that doesn't help me today. Or tomorrow. I've still got to produce. And that's why baseball's so great.

"But when you break it down to only winning, it's no good unless you win, then I say you're wrong. People are going to criticize me and say, well, you don't make any money if you don't win—and that may be true. But if you judge your baseball career or your job strictly on how much money you've made, then if that's your judgment on what's important in life, then you're hurtin'.

"But if I go out and play, there's a certain self-satisfaction for me in knowing that I've done as good as I can do. Because if I want to be Sandy Koufax, no matter how hard I try, I could never be Sandy Koufax. I can't throw as hard as he can. But I can be as good as Steve Hamilton can do, regardless of whether I make \$20,000 or \$100,000. I think I've been a big success in baseball because I've done as much as I could do. I've always wanted to do more. I'm not saying I'm extremely pleased with what I've done. But the money hasn't been the big thing."

Tribe Sees Super-Star Ranking for Rookie Chambliss

By RUSSELL SCHNEIDER

Earlier, Chambliss was elected the A. L.'s Rookie Player of the Year in THE SPORTING NEWS (November 13) poll of major league players. He also was chosen on the major league Topps Rookie All-Star Team.

Actually, it was something that Chris started a year ago in his first season in Organized Ball. He was the 1970 Rookie of the Year (as well as the batting champion) of the American Association.

Award Pleases Chris

Of his latest achievement, Chambliss, who seldom uses two words when one will suffice, said, "I'm very pleased . . . this is terrific."

One of the few bright spots for the Indians in 1971, Chambliss hit .275 with nine homers and 48 RBIs after being called up from Wichita (American Association) on May 28.

It was his emergence as a star that led, more than anything else, to the premature retirement of Ken Harrelson in late June.

Simply stated, Chambliss chased Harrelson off first base, which prompted The Hawk's decision to trade his baseball spikes for golf shoes.

In the BBWAA poll, Chambliss received 11 of the 24 votes. Milwaukee pitcher Bill Parsons, whose record was 13-17, was second with five votes.

They were followed by Oakland outfielder Angel Mangual with four

votes, Boston second baseman Doug Griffin with three and Kansas City pitcher Paul Splittorff with one.

Mangual hit .286 with four homers and 30 RBIs, and Griffin .244 with three homers and 27 RBIs. Splittorff's record was 8-9.

Chambliss is only the second member of the Indians to win the BBWAA rookie award since it was begun in 1949. The other was Herb Score in 1955. Score, whose pitching career was shortened because of arm trouble and a serious eye injury in 1957, is now one of the Tribe's radio voices.

Sharing Chambliss' elation—and

maybe even happier—was Indian Chief Gabe Paul.

"Chris certainly deserved to win the award," said Paul, "and I'm predicting right now that one of these years he's going to be the Most Valuable Player. He is the kind of kid who can do it."

Said new Manager Ken Aspromonte, who was primarily responsible for Chambliss reaching the big leagues in his second pro year, "It's a great honor for Chris. He's going to become one of the top players in baseball. You haven't seen all he can do yet."

(Continued on Page 40, Column 1)

Cronin, Lawyer to Study Bid

CLEVELAND, O.—American League President Joe Cronin and Cleveland attorney James Garner will comprise the two-man, fact-finding committee to explore the feasibility of New Orleans' "share-the-Indians" proposal.

Garnier, a member of the Cleveland law firm of Baker-Hostetler & Patterson, is counsel for the American League.

"It will be our job to explore every facet of the proposal (for the Indians to play 30 home games each season in the New Orleans Superdome beginning in 1974) and report to the owners at the league meeting, probably in March," said Cronin.

"We will collect all the data, but we won't make any recommendations. It will be up to the owners to decide for themselves whether it's a good idea."

Cronin said that he and Garner probably would begin their fact-finding mission after the holidays. He indicated a progress report might be available by the end of January.

SCHNEIDER



Chris Chambliss . . . Best Is Yet to Come.



Vida Blue . . . Blueblood of Oakland Mound Staff.

Holtzman, Blue Give A's Strong Lefty Hill Punch

By RON BERGMAN

OAKLAND, Calif.—Ken Holtzman and Vida Blue. It's not like the old days. For instance, back in the dark ages of 1969, the A's played 163 games (there was one tie) and 158 times their starting pitcher was right-handed. They finished second, nine games back of the Twins and repeated the performance the following year in the American League West.

But in 1971, along came Vida Blue and the A's were on top. Now that they've traded Rick Monday to the Cubs for Holtzman, the A's have two quality southpaws.

"Of course," said Holtzman, "over in the National League, we didn't get a chance to see Vida Blue. We could only go by his record. I'm glad to be on the same team he is."

So are the A's. Imagine starting Holtzman and Blue in a Yankee Stadium doubleheader! That must make Manager Dick Williams smile, just to think about it.

Also, the A's like to throw lefthanders against the Twins because of Tony Oliva and Rod Carew.

Holtzman will join 24-game winner Blue and 21-game winner Catfish Hunter in the A's starting rotation. The fourth and possibly fifth spots are somewhat open at his time.

Chuck Dobson was to undergo elbow surgery and Blue Moon Odom is trying to bring some life back to his surgically-scared arm. Williams likes to use Diego Segui more as a spot starter than as a regular member of the rotation.

"For the last six years," Holtzman said, "I've pitched every fourth day. It gets tiring, but you get used to it. Maybe that extra day's rest makes you a little stronger, but you might not be as sharp."

Ken Eager for Heavy Duty

"You sort of pattern yourself for pitching every fourth day. You get mentally prepared for it."

So Holtzman is ready to start working. He's also out to prove that last season was a fluke.

"I just had a bad year, in those words," he said about his worst-ever 9-15 record in 1971. "There were no physical problems. I just couldn't get started. I couldn't get straightened out; my concentration was off."

"I don't know what it was. If I did, I could make a lot of money explaining how to pitch."

The Cubs suffered through a lot of clubhouse dissension and Holtzman's name was connected with the players who were unhappy. Contributing to Ken's disruption were frequent interruptions for Army National Guard meetings, although he had been through this before. He's now fulfilled his military obligation.

Yet he managed to pitch his second major league no-hitter on June 3 when he blanked the Reds, 1-0. He also threw a one-hitter and ended up with three shutouts.

"I thought after the no-hitter I'd be okay," Kenny said, "but I wasn't."

The 26-year-old Holtzman was criticized by Cub Manager Leo Durocher during the season for not throwing his fast ball enough. Dick Williams, by the way, likes his hurlers to fire the ball.

He's Accustomed to Big Work Load

"I've never had arm trouble in my life," Holtzman said. "I've worked between 275 and 280 innings a season for the last five years and that's a lot of pitching."

Durocher's criticism was just one factor that led Holtzman to ask Cub General Manager John Holland to trade him.

"I don't know what I would have done if he hadn't traded me," Holtzman said. "I've never been asked that before. I don't think I would have quit."

"I think the trade is great. They have a good team here, they're winners. I'm glad to get the chance to play in California and I think Northern California is beautiful."

Holtzman is no stranger to the Oakland Coliseum. The A's and Cubs played two exhibition games there before the 1969 season and Holtzman was the winning pitcher in the second game.

A's Acorns: Vida Blue went on the Bob Hope Christmas tour around the world to entertain United States servicemen. . . . Former A's public relations man Mike Haggerty landed a job with Aaron D. Cushman and Associates, a public relations organization with offices in six cities. Naturally Haggerty is stationed in Chicago, just down the street from his former boss, Charlie Finley. . . . The A's former second baseman Jerry Adair was added to their coaching staff.

Pepitone Happy to Settle Down At First Base in Cubs' Lineup

By EDGAR MUNZEL

CHICAGO, Ill.—The Cubs' acquisition of fleet-footed outfielders Rick Monday and Jose Cardenal was generally applauded in Chicago, but nowhere did it meet with such enthusiasm as in the case of Joe Pepitone.

It so happens that Pepi is more directly concerned than anyone else.

"I know both Monday and Cardenal are going to give our ball club a big lift, because both are topflight center fielders, which is something we've needed very badly," said Pepi. "And at the same time, they're going to give me a big lift as well."

"With established center fielders around like Monday and Cardenal, I won't be bouncing back and forth between center field and first base all the time. And that's bound to help me do a better all-round job at first base, which is where Leo (Manager Durocher) is planning to use me."

"Anybody who plays more than one position will tell you that a guy can do much better if he plays regularly at just one spot, no matter how much all-round talent he may have."

He Wants to Stay Put

"Quite simply, it's as true in baseball as it is everywhere else that a jack-of-all-trades is a master of none. Frankly, I'm happy that I'll be back at first base to stay."

"When you remain fixed at one position, you get into a rhythm in the field so that you can handle the plays a lot better and with more certainty. But that isn't all. It also pays off at the plate."

"If you feel uncomfortable and unsure of yourself in the field, then mentally you won't be at your best

at the plate either. You must be relaxed to hit well and you can't be relaxed if you're worried about how you're fielding."

Pepitone, however, has more reasons than Monday and Cardenal to be optimistic about 1972. He also will be in far better physical condition than he was last season.

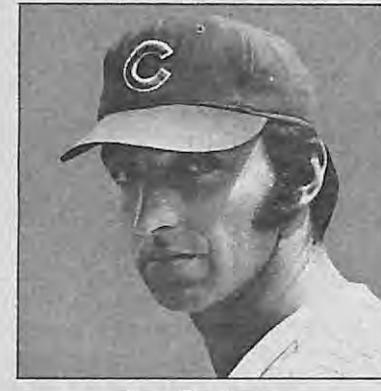
The colorful Cub underwent surgery six weeks ago for removal of a bone chip in his left elbow and the operation was a complete success.

Arm Feels Okay

"It feels fine," said Pepi, who makes his home in Chicago. "I went hunting for two weeks and found that the arm feels stronger than ever and there's absolutely no pain or tenderness."

Pepitone injured the arm while playing center field last May. He was making a throw from the outfield while off balance and the bone snapped in the elbow.

That's another big reason why Pepi is glad to be liberated from outfield duty. The long throw from the outfield is quite different from



Joe Pepitone

the short throw of an infielder. It could be that the arm injury resulted from the rapid change back and forth from infield play. Pepi just wasn't geared for the long throw.

Pepi was out of action for almost a month after the injury. Late in the season, the arm began bothering him again, even handicapping him at the plate. After September 13, he didn't start a game. Joe did hit .307 (his first time over .300), but he was far below par in power with only 16 homers.

Last season Pepi played 23 games in center field and 95 at first base, though some of the latter were for defensive reasons in the late innings.

Pepi Prefers Gateway

"If I have a choice, I'd certainly rather play first base," said Pepi. "I know that's my best defensive position and I just feel more at home there."

There's no question that Pepi will have his wish next season, what with Ernie Banks now out of the picture since being shifted to a full-time coaching job and none of the farmhand rookies being far enough along in their development.

Bruin Briefs: The Cubs have announced a 28-game spring exhibition schedule, two fewer contests than last spring. . . . It will open March 8 against the Giants at the Cub base in Scottsdale. . . . For the first time in many years, the Cubs will take a swing across the South with three weekend games against the Indians in New Orleans March 31 and April 1-2. Then they will invade Florida for two games with the White Sox at Sarasota April 3-4 and a final one with the Expos in West Palm Beach April 5.

Astros Seem Set With Proved Lineup

By JOHN WILSON

HOUSTON, Tex.—The Astros will go to 1972 spring training with a lineup of proven major leaguers at every position—the first time the club ever has been in that situation.

They had high expectations the past three seasons, but in each case they had to hope that players would come through who had not proved themselves over at least one season as regulars.

"Even last year, we had Roger Metzger, Cesar Cedeno and Bob Watson and had to hope all of them were as good as we thought they were," Manager Harry Walker said. Cedeno and Watson had played slightly over half a season as regulars in 1970 and Metzger was a genuine rookie.

The questions for the coming year are more in the nature of whether players who have proved they can do it can bounce back and produce nearer their capabilities than they did in 1970.

Jim Wynn and Doug Rader are the two who fit this description. Walker feels confident they will do it.

Wynn Comeback Forecast

"I believe Jim's going to come back and have a good year," Harry the Hat said. "I'm counting on it. He had an off year and I think he'll have the pride to rebound in '72."

Walker and Wynn haven't been exactly a mutual admiration society and this is a reason that most baseball people expected General Manager Spec Richardson to trade Wynn this winter. Walker says any personal ill feeling is only on Wynn's part.

"I didn't push for him to be traded," Harry said. And he said he

particularly didn't after second baseman Joe Morgan was sent away.

Wynn and Morgan have been the closest of friends on and off the field for a number of years and the Houston management thought that maybe that alliance got in the way of each becoming a full individual partner in the team.

"Joe's a good ballplayer and he will do a good job for Cincinnati," Walker said.

"But the guy we got will be a little more willing to do what you want, to hit behind the runner and give himself up to help you score a run," he continued.

Helms New Keystoner

Walker was talking about second baseman Tommy Helms, who came to Houston along with first baseman Lee May and utilityman Jimmy Stewart in exchange for Morgan, infielder Denis Menke, pitcher Jack Billingham, center fielder Cesar Geronimo and minor league outfielder Ed Armbrister.

"Joe had his own ideas about things and that made it a little tough sometimes," Walker said.

Harry was highly pleased at the deals that Richardson made at the winter meetings. Besides the big Cincinnati swap, other key acquisitions were ace lefthander Dave Roberts from San Diego and hard-throwing reliever Jim York from Kansas City.

"Frankly, I didn't expect Spec to be able to make the trades he did," Walker said. "But it just all fit together like a jigsaw puzzle for us. We were able to get what we needed without giving up much that we were

counting on for the '72 season."

The Astros surrendered considerable value in "futures"—notably John Mayberry, Bill Greif, Derrel Thomas and Geronimo.

"We haven't been able to do that before," Walker said. "We've had to hold on to our prospects in the past, if we ever were to have a chance to win. But now we're close enough to go for the whole ball of wax. And this team is one that can go all the way."

Increase in Firepower

"It's not going to be any cake-walk because the other teams have strengthened, too. But we've got a team now that can stay in there and punch with anyone. Of course, we have to stay healthy, but that's part of baseball."

Walker, who survived a 1971 season that most people figured would cost him his job, added: "I'm probably more excited about going to spring training this time than I ever have been before."

Astronotes: Richardson missed on a last-minute effort to pluck left-handed reliever Sparky Lyle from Boston. Richardson had discussed a possible trade for Lyle at the winter meetings and made another effort just before the interleague trading deadline passed. . . . Walker believes the Astros may double their 1971 Homer production of 71. He expects more power hitting from Jim Wynn, Doug Rader, Bob Watson and Cesar Cedeno. Moving in the fences and the acquisition of Lee May are two other big factors. Houston hit the fewest homers in the league last season.

Hill Stats Grounds for Aker Confusion

By JIM OGLE

NEW YORK, N.Y.—"I look at my statistics line, compare it with last year's and things get confused and complicated," Jack Aker said of his unusual record with the Yankees last season. "The two lines are almost identical, except I gave up fewer hits, yet I had a bad year."

"No one has to tell me that it was the bullpen, especially Lindy (McDaniel) and I, that turned us from a second-place finish to a fourth. Lindy knows it as well as I do, yet I don't feel I pitched that badly. It was a crazy year for me, although I haven't had a chance to go over my chart yet."

"It was a season in which any bad pitch I made cost a ball game," Aker said. "If I made 49 good pitches out of 50, the bad one beat me. If I made only five pitches, one would beat me. Maybe I lacked consistency in my control, which I wasn't too happy with."

Akers Have a New Home

Aker is spending the winter in northern New Jersey for the first time and he and his family are enjoying it. His wife, Sharon, and the five children also like their new home, which was more or less set up to prevent the annual jumping around.

"Sharon and I had a great time at Acapulco where the players' association met this year," Aker said. "We managed to have a couple of days' vacation after the meeting ended. I felt that the attitude was more or less friendly and, in fact, I feel that the relations between owners and the association are better than in some time."

"With increased costs and everything, it is obvious that our benefit

fund will need additional monies. I know there have been stories that the owners would not go any further, yet I feel things will be worked out."

With Jim Fregosi traded out of the league, Aker has become the American League player representative.

He moved up from his alternate spot, but chances are the players will elect the silent Yankee to the top spot.

Aker, who pitched with a back problem in 1970, reports he is feeling better than he has in two or three

years. He is hoping that next spring he will be able to concentrate on getting ready to pitch, not having a repeat of last year when his infant son spent so much time in hospitals with a mysterious (now past) ailment.

"I really don't think I was mentally ready to open the season," Jack admitted.

"Baseball is a strange game. One good year can carry you for a couple of years, while one bad year usually will be written off as one of those things. After a bad year, however, you'd better be good, for no one, especially a relief pitcher, can survive two bad years back to back."

Nearly Identical Seasons

Aker's rating of his last two seasons is quite correct.

In fact, they are so nearly alike as to be almost weird. Here are the lines:

	G	W	L	S	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
1971	41	4	4	4	58	51	20	16	26	25	2.48
1970	41	4	2	16	70	57	19	16	20	36	2.06

Yankee Doodles: Roy White and his family moved into their new home in time to welcome Santa Claus at the new address. Roy is doing well in business and apparently has decided to become a permanent resident. . . . Stan Bahnsen also is doing well in the New York area and plans to retain his apartment. . . . Ron Blomberg was in town on a visit and spent one day selling season tickets in Grand Central Station. . . . Gene Michael and his family are staying in their New Jersey home for the holidays. . . . Rich McKinney is playing third base in Puerto Rico as he prepares for the spot Ralph Houk has picked out for him.



Jack Aker

Blyleven Earns No. 1 Spot on Twins' Hill Staff

By BOB FOWLER

TWIN CITIES, Minn. — Without a doubt, pitching is important to winning. As so many in baseball like to say, "It is the name of the game." So what will Minnesota's "game" be like in 1972? What names will be prominent in Bill Rigney's game plans?

By acquiring relievers Dave LaRoche and Wayne Granger during the winter meetings, the Twins apparently strengthened their bullpen. At the same time, they clarified their starting rotation.

"As I see it," President Calvin Griffith said, "we have Bert Blyleven, Jim Perry, Jim Kaat and Ray Corbin to start."

And if you think they won't be the big four next April, you must believe it doesn't snow in Minneapolis in the wintertime.

Last season, there was talk of a five-man rotation and Rigney even tried it a few times. But pitchers balked, saying they preferred to start a game, rest the next day, pitch on the sidelines the third day and rest the fourth.

At least to start the season, that will be the program for Blyleven, Perry, Kaat and Corbin.

Griffith did add, however, "If a fifth starter is needed, perhaps it could be Dick Woodson, or maybe Greg Jaycox will develop."

Let's then examine the pitchers Rigney will use against the likes of Boog Powell, Reggie Jackson, Richie Allen, etc.

Bert Not Yet 21

Blyleven, who will be 21 on opening day (April 6) and probably will get the starting assignment against the Angels because of that, plus the fact he's the best pitcher on the staff, has compiled a 26-24 record in 1½ years with the Twins. More significant, he won his last six decisions last season, proving what he can do when he isn't concerned with marriage plans and when he has a catcher (Phil Roof) who acts more like a quarterback than a defensive tackle.

Corbin split his time between relieving and starting and it didn't help him survive his freshman year. As a starter, he showed great determination, especially when opposing Vida Blue. If he gets a starting job and isn't used in relief, too, he could develop into a winning pitcher for, after all, he'll be only 23 years old.

Perry, who won the Cy Young award and 24 games in 1970, slipped to 17-17 last season. More signifi-

cant, his control slipped, too, as indicated by his 102 walks and club-record-tying 39 home-run pitches. Was it just an "off year," or was his ineffectiveness caused by his age? He was 35 October 30.

Kaat, who was 33 in November, had an unusual season. He had 15 complete games, second only to Blyleven's 17, and a respectable 3.32 ERA. But in 260 innings, he gave up 275 hits and had a 13-14 record. He was inconsistent from start to start, pitching sensational one game and being knocked out before he got a chance to bat the next time out.

Woodson, who was returned to the minors after two previous trials

in Minnesota, led the Pacific Coast League in wins (16) and perhaps found the range with his fast ball, for he walked only 90 in 221 innings.

Jaycox, who will be 21 March 9, had a 15-5 record at Charlotte (Southern) with a 2.77 ERA.

Last season, Twins' starters completed 43 games, 17 more than in 1970 when Ron Perranoski and Stan Williams were saving 49 games and the American League West title. In 1971, Rigney wasn't confident in his relievers and was content to let starters attempt to finish.

Next season that should change, due to the addition of LaRoche and Granger.

Rig High on LaRoche

Following the deal for LaRoche, Rigney said, "I think he is the best lefthanded relief pitcher in our league." That must have surprised the likes of Tom Burgmeier, Sparky Lyle, Bill Lee and Fred Scherman.

After the acquisition of Granger, the manager said, "We have a good one-two punch again in our bullpen." He obviously was thinking back to those days in 1970 when he removed a starter and didn't worry.

At least, he may not have to worry about the late innings now.

But he likes to save his aces, as he calls them, for the final outs. Whom, then, will he summon to precede LaRoche and Granger?

Well, for lefthanders there are Jim Strickland, who had a deceiving 1.45 ERA since he allowed nine unearned runs in 31 innings, and Vic Albury, a fast balling 24-year-old who, in 66 games at Charlotte, was 12-7 with a 1.73 ERA and 130 strikeouts in 135 innings.

The best of the righthanders are Hal Haydel, 4-2 with one save and a 4.28 ERA; Bob Gebhard, 1-2 in 17

games after being promoted from Portland, and Tom Norton, who had a meager 6-10 record but a good sinker at Charlotte. That is the current state of the Twins' pitching.

In short, it's a staff of one young capable starter, one of promise and two veterans who, hopefully, aren't too old to be consistent winners. In the bullpen, there are two proven relievers and several who will be major league sophomores or rookies.

Offense Next Topic

Since pitching is so important, the name of Minnesota's game in 1972 perhaps had better be "offense."

That's unlikely, but we'll discuss that situation next week.

Twin Tales: Because they left themselves short on shortstops by trading Leo Cardenas and then sending Triple-A shortstop Jim Kennedy to the Mets, the Twins acquired Jose Arcia from San Diego along with catcher-first baseman Ron Drake for minor league first baseman Jerry Schlegel and cash. Arcia and Drake are on the Tacoma (Pacific Coast) roster. . . . Twin Cities residents will have two mid-winter banquets the same week. On January 17 the Broadcasters' banquet will be in Minneapolis and on January 21 the St. Paul Old-Timers will hold their annual Hot Stove League dinner. . . . When Griffith made his two trades in Phoenix, it marked the first time the Twins had completed two deals during the winter meetings. Twice in the past, a second deal followed shortly after the officials returned home. . . . Rigney, who has been criticized for not spending enough time in Minnesota during the off-season, intends to remain for 10 days or two weeks after the January banquets.



Bert Blyleven

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Ted Meets the Press in Texas; Not an Unkind Word Is Spoken

By RANDY GALLOWAY

ARLINGTON, Tex.—His initial press conference with the Dallas-Fort Worth media was just some 10 minutes old, but Ted Williams must have figured a trend was developing.

"Well," he quipped to some three dozen newsmen, "so far my press relations have been great."

And that they were.

Williams went through an hour-long session with the media, fielding each and every question with a flawless and, as usual, direct style. Then he posed for photos and television shots and after that, gladdened it with area dignitaries, mainly those from the city of Arlington.

All in all, the Texas Rangers could not have asked for a better public relations man than Williams—on this day, anyway.

A Hustling Outfit

"I'm just as enthusiastic about coming here as I'm sure all the people here are about having the new Texas Rangers," said Williams. "I'll make just one promise to you . . . as long as I'm the manager of the Rangers, you can bet our club will be a hustling one. In the past three seasons, even with a critical press, and I consider all press critical un-

til proven otherwise, never once was our club accused of not hustling. I intend to keep it that way."

The Ranger manager also pushed a theme that other club officials have been talking up lately—the new area, new enthusiasm helping a club move up in the standings.

Enthusiasm Helps Players

"Well, I think it's going to be a great experience," he noted. "In my career, I never had the opportunity to get into a new enthusiastic area, but I do know what has happened in this type of situation. That enthusiasm from the crowd can be felt all through the ranks and it's an incentive that can help a club."

Meanwhile, the Texans also are trying to help themselves with trades—several have been made and there are probably several more coming up.

"Well, in the one trade we made (with Cleveland), I think it will make us a more representative team," Williams stated. "The thing that really appealed to me was that we got two pitchers (Rich Hand and Mike Paul) who could be starters for us."

"Now I would certainly hope we could make some more trades. It's

something we are working on. We are more or less dedicated to our youth program now and I think we would prefer to give up experience over youth."

Williams was asked just how strongly Frank Howard figured in the trade talk.

"We explored all trade avenues with all players on our club," he noted, "and we will continue to do so."

A Weight Problem

"I haven't talked to Frank so I don't know what his plans are, but I do hope he realizes that in getting older, he is getting heavier, and it's something he must be concerned with. In fact, this is the only matter I've ever had words with Frank about."

"But I do think that if he gets himself into real good shape, he could have a real good year."

As for Ted's managerial career, "I certainly feel there's room for improvement," laughed Williams. "I'm not happy by any means with the way it has gone up to date. But if I didn't feel that I was improving in most areas over that first season, I would go back to fishing."

It was Williams' first visit to the



Ted Williams . . . A Promise to Texas Fans.

Dallas-Fort Worth area since the Rangers transferred from Washington.

Club officials took him on a tour of the construction area that is Turnpike Stadium.

"It looks like a real major league

ball park; those people are getting with it," said Williams. "And with the dimensions I've seen, there is certainly going to be some hitting out there."

That should certainly please The Thumper.

Swapper Sparky Fair Game for Needler Smokey

By EARL LAWSON

CINCINNATI, O. — Surprisingly enough, perhaps no one in baseball has a much better sense of humor than Walter Alston.

And no one, perhaps, enjoys perpetrating a practical joke more than the Dodgers' manager.

There was the time, for instance, some years back when the Dodgers' roster included Ron Fairly, Frank Howard and a few other talented youngsters who were just getting their feet wet in the majors.

At one time during the season, it seemed as if one or the other of these players was nursing an injury.

The temptation to needle was just too much for Alston to resist. So the Dodger pilot called over Pee Wee Reese, then in the twilight of a brilliant career as the Dodger shortstop.

"Pee Wee," deadpanned Alston, "get on these kids! Needle 'em a lit-

tle . . . tell 'em they're just not making ballplayers the way they used to make 'em."

A grin had spread across Pee Wee's face. This was going to be a fun job.

The massive Howard, who later was to earn the nickname of "The Gentle Giant," was one of Reese's foremost targets.

With the stage set, Alston took Howard aside.

A Jolt for Pee Wee

"Look," said Walt, "don't let Reese talk to you that way. Scare him a little . . . get him down in that dugout runway and shake him up some."

At first Howard was more than a little hesitant. And naturally so, because rookies just don't toss their weight around, especially when they are landing on established stars.

Finally, after considerable prodding from Alston, Howard relented.

Walt rocks with laughter every time he recalls the incident which followed.

"Sure enough," said Alston, "Howard lured Reese into the dugout runway."

In so many words, Howard impressed upon Reese the fact that he didn't appreciate the veteran Dodger shortstop's criticism. And, in emphasizing his comment, Howard clutched Reese's uniform shirt in one massive hand and lifted Pee Wee off the ground.

"You should have seen Pee Wee," exclaimed Alston, laughing as he remembered the look of bewilderment on Reese's face, which was white as a sheet.

Just when Pee Wee was beginning to fear the worst, Howard could control himself no longer.

"Frank couldn't keep from laughing," said Alston.

Reese Was Worried

"I laughed, too, when I learned it was all a gag set up by Walt," said Pee Wee. "But," he confessed, "I've got to admit big Frank had me a little worried there for a while."

You were reminded of the Howard-Reese incident during the winter meetings in Phoenix when Alston and San Diego Manager Preston Gomez wound up at the same table with the Reds' Sparky Anderson during the annual major league managers' luncheon.

"I guess you figure you've got next year's pennant all sewed up after that trade with Houston," said a sober-faced Alston, addressing Anderson.

Red first baseman Lee May, who topped the club with 39 homers and 98 RBIs, was one of the Red players who departed in the deal.

"With May gone, maybe Robin will change his mind and decide to sign," kidded Alston.

Robin is Alston's grandson, Robin Ogle, who was a free-agent draft choice of the Reds last June. The youngster passed up signing in favor of gaining a couple more years of experience by playing junior col-

lege ball in Florida.

"Yeah," said Anderson, "I can just hear Robin now if he were on my club. Every time I made a move he'd be telling me, 'That's not the way Grandpa would do it.'"

Alston smiled.

"Now that you've made that Houston trade, you don't need Johnny Bench," said Walt. "Why don't you give him to us? Why, if I had Bench, I'd even buy my own ticket to get into the park every time we played in Cincinnati."

Tickets for Pals, Too

"In fact," added Alston, driving the needle a little deeper into Anderson, "I'd even buy tickets for all my friends in Darrtown."

Now Gomez got into the act by mentioning the name of Cesar Geronimo, the 24-year-old Latin outfielder the Reds acquired in the Astro deal.

"Is that the guy who hurt his arm?" asked Alston, his face a picture of innocence.

"I hear you," answered Sparky, "and I heard you when you said Denis Menke was on crutches."

Menke, the veteran infielder, was another Astro acquired in the deal which sent May and second baseman Tommy Helms to Houston.

Alston tossed a wink Gomez' way.

"Joe Morgan, does he still drink a lot?" asked Walt. "You know he has his own liquor store in Oakland."

Just Among Friends

"And they're supposed to be my friends," sighed Anderson with nods toward his two tormentors.

"I'll tell you what great friends they are," said Sparky. "It concerns a little incident that took place after the 1971 All-Star Game."

Alston grinned. So did Gomez. Each knew what was coming.

"Things could have been worse," recalled Sparky.

"The National League had just lost the All-Star Game and I was the manager," continued the Reds' boss. "And, as you know, my own team was going pretty bad."

"You're in a situation such as that and it's always nice to receive a little consolation from your friends."

"So what happens?" said Anderson. "I walk up behind Alston and Gomez after the All-Star Game and they're talking."

Sparky paused.

The grins of Gomez and Alston widened.

"I'll tell you what my two so-called friends are talking about," said Anderson. "Alston's asking Gomez how the Padres pitch to May."

"I'm having troubles enough," went on Sparky, "and there they were conspiring against me by trying to figure a way to get out the only guy on the club who was doing any hitting for me."

Walt Has Ready Answer

Anderson groaned when Reds' publicist Roger Ruhl chimed in with the untimely remark that Alston had consented to appear on the "Reds-line" radio show being conducted during the off-season by broadcaster Joe Nuxhall.

"That's right," said Alston.

"And," he added, "you just know that someone's gonna ask me what I think of the deal you made with Houston."

Alston's answer?

"There's only one answer," said Walt, unable to keep a straight face. "I've got to tell the listener that if the Reds don't win the pennant in 1972 then there's something drastically wrong."

Red Hots: Red publicist Roger Ruhl reported the club received only 60 letters from fans blasting the Houston trade. . . . Members of the Cincinnati baseball writers' chapter voted Lee May, now with Houston, as the Reds' most valuable player of 1971. Voting was done before the trade with the Astros. Don Gullett, whose 16-6 record topped the staff, was voted the club's outstanding pitcher. Rookie lefty Ross Grimesley, who compiled a 10-7 record after his recall from Indianapolis, was named the club's outstanding newcomer.



LARRY GAGNON of Cleveland, named the Sponsor of the Year by the American Amateur Baseball Congress, receives his trophy from President Lincoln Hackim as General Manager Bob Howsam of the Reds looks on. Gagnon sponsored five teams in different divisions of the National youth program last season.

Kaline Sees Orioles as Easier Prey for Tigers

By WATSON SPOELSTRA

DETROIT, Mich.—Al Kaline has a simple solution to an impending problem as he makes the turn into his 20th season with the Tigers.

"Guess I'll just have to hit .300," said Al when asked how he planned to stabilize his career average in Detroit.

Kaline, who hit .294 last summer, marked his 37th birthday December 19 by signing a contract for \$100,000. He was the first Detroit player ever to receive that amount.

General Manager Jim Campbell announced that the club was staying within the 5.5 percent wage freeze, meaning that Kaline received about \$95,000 last season. Campbell said the rest of the Tigers' contracts will not go into the mail until after the first of the year.

For most of his major league career Kaline has been a .300 hitter, giving himself some cushion when he won the batting title at .340 before his 21st birthday in 1955.

No Room for Relapse

He sort of leveled off at .311 in the early '60s and since has been sliding, point by point. Al carried a .301 average into the 1971 season and grudgingly yielded another point to an even .300.

A longtime Kaline admirer, North Carolina produce man Art Meyer, usually has it figured out just what Al needs to stay above the magic line.

"Heard from Meyer on what it will take?" Kaline was asked.

"Art doesn't have to tell me," Al responded with a grin. "I can see it has to be .300."

In a Detroit visit a couple of weeks ago, Billy Martin told writers he was forced to play Kaline more than he wanted to in his first year of managing the Tigers.

"When we had some late injuries, Kaline stayed in the lineup when he was tired," said Billy. "Al's that kind of a team man."

Sometimes It's Tough

"I didn't think I was overplayed," observed Kaline when the manager's remarks were repeated. "A few times it was tough to go in on defense late in the game when I thought I'd have the day off."

Kaline likes Detroit's chances to overtake the Orioles in the American League East.

"I'm glad Frank Robinson's gone," said Al. "Next summer the Orioles won't be as tough with Frank out of their lineup."

Al feels the Tigers gave themselves a psychological lift by winning five straight from Baltimore near the end of the season.

"We finished strong because we knew Martin better and he knew us," said Kaline. "I think you'll find some enthusiasm in spring training. The way we beat the Orioles at the end gives them something to think about."

Kaline has the notion most of the Detroit players will have improved years in 1972.

"Mickey Lolich and Norm Cash had sort of super years for us," said Al. "Joe Coleman



Al Kaline 300 a Must.

and Mickey Stanley both were very good. But I think the other guys can do better than they did last year."

Kaline has great respect for Tony Taylor, the Cuban infielder who played the last three

months in Detroit after his transfer from the Phillies.

"I hope he decides to stay around a few more years," said Al. "Tony kept making the plays for us at second base. This helped Dick McAuliffe, who needed some rest. You could see the improvement in Aurelio Rodriguez after Tony started rooming with him."

Rodriguez is the 24-year-old Mexican third baseman who could be the next Brooks Robinson.

Al Older Than Tony

Curiously, Kaline and Taylor share the December 19 birthday, with Al one year up on Tony. They both are slender physical types and seemingly have long mileage.

Tiger Tales: Les Cain's shoulder wasn't hurting in Puerto Rican ball and this encourages Billy Martin. Cain left for his home in Richmond, Calif., in mid-December because of blisters on his pitching hand. . . . Jim Campbell likes the hustle of outfielder Ike Blessitt, who hit the ball hard in Mexico after a strong performance in the Florida Instructional League. "Ike's going to take somebody's job in our outfield," Campbell predicted. . . . When Aurelio Rodriguez got married and dropped out of the Mexican winter league, the Tigers replaced him with young infielder John Knox, a good prospect. . . . Art Houtteman, now 44 and a successful steel salesman in Detroit, says a con artist is impersonating him in many places around the country. The bogus Houtteman has a hard-luck story about being broke.

Aspro Spotted Chambliss as Comer in 1970

(Continued From Page 36)

It was Aspromonte who "requested" Chambliss in spring training of 1970, after he was selected first in the free-agent draft a few months earlier and signed a substantial bonus contract.

"Chris was supposed to play for Reno (California) because of his lack of experience," related Aspromonte. "But I took one look at him and knew I didn't have anybody on the Wichita roster who was better."

Chambliss, of course, justified Aspromonte's judgment. He won the American Association batting championship with a .342 average that included seven homers and 52 RBIs.

Aspromonte continued, "All Chris lacks is power. He's primarily a line-drive hitter. But he'll hit 15 or 20 homers a year as long as he doesn't jack up too much."

Still a Greenhorn

"He's still a baby in pro baseball, and when he learns to make some adjustments against lefthanded pitching, you're really going to see something. He's still a couple of years away from reaching his full potential."

Chambliss acknowledged Aspromonte's help. "The best thing that could have happened for me is what did," he said. "I got to Wichita and Kenny let me play every day. That's what I needed most."

Chambliss is taking it easy this winter, except for a weight-lifting program he started recently. "I want to build up my legs and make sure I don't have any problems like I did at the start of last season," he explained.

Last spring training, Chambliss suffered a severely pulled thigh muscle which prevented him from being

called up to the varsity sooner than he was.

But once he arrived, Chambliss wasted no time making his presence known.

It could be, as Paul and Aspromonte suggest, the start of something very good.

Bill Veeck revealed recently that he is aware of at least one legitimate offer made to Vernon Stouffer to purchase the Indians. "I think it was a very reasonable offer from

a seller's standpoint, but obviously Mr. Stouffer didn't agree," he said. Veeck indicated the offer was for more than \$8 million, but wouldn't elaborate. Additionally, Veeck said he has no interest in returning to Cleveland, although insisting he still considers it a very good baseball city. "My opinion of Cleveland hasn't changed in the slightest. Let's just say I'd rather have the very pleasant memories, and reminisce and enjoy the past." Stouffer won't

firm, but neither does he deny the rumors that at least one prime group is still trying to buy the club. "I can't make any comment on things like that," he said. "I never take those things to the newspapers. This has got to be done privately."

On the subject of the New Orleans' "share-the-franchise" proposal to play 30 "home" games in the Superdome annually beginning in 1974, Stouffer said, "There's nothing new on that. Nothing official

has been decided yet." . . . Phil Seghi, the new director of player personnel, takes an optimistic view of the Indians. "The situation here is not as bad as it would appear to some. I'm convinced that things can be turned around with the acquisition of just one or two men, which is our immediate task," he said. Seghi believes a new attitude is vital, too. "We've got to generate positive thinking. The club has got to be convinced that what happened here last year was not the true criterion."

Tribe Tidbits: Aspromonte postponed his scouting mission to Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic until the first week of January to check on Tribesmen playing winter ball. Of primary importance on Aspromonte's agenda is a long talk with outfielder Alex Johnson, who is burning up the P. R. league for Caguas. Then Aspromonte will be in Cleveland for a couple of weeks in mid-January for a series of promotional appearances and conferences with Paul and Seghi. Aspromonte will remain in Cleveland for the annual Ribs and Roasts dinner-show to be held at the Sheraton-Cleveland Hotel on January 31.

Indians directors held a meeting on December 17 which was called, as usual, "routine." . . . Nothing new has developed in the bid by a group of Clevelanders headed by Al Rosen to purchase the Indians from Vernon Stouffer. "As far as we're concerned, Mr. Stouffer has rejected our offer (of about \$8.5-million), although we still are hopeful he will reconsider," said Rosen.

Phoebus Finds Niche as a Fireman

By PAUL COUR

SAN DIEGO, Calif.—Padre scouting director Bob Fontaine was going over pitcher Tom Phoebus' statistics for the 1971 National League season.

They weren't impressive.

The burly righthander started 21 games, completed only two while posting a 3-11 record with a 4.47 earned-run average. But Fontaine uncovered some positive stats on Phoebus, who was named rookie pitcher of the year when he broke into the American League with Baltimore in 1967.

A failure as a starter in his first year with the Padres, the 29-year-old native of Maryland found success where he least expected it—as a reliever.

Fontaine pointed out that in the last two months of the '71 campaign Phoebus was the Padres' most effective fireman. In eight relief outings, he pitched 16 1/3 innings, gave up only eight hits, three earned runs, walked three and struck out 13.

While Fontaine doesn't rule out the possibility that Phoebus could come back strong as a starter—a role in which he compiled a 50-37 record in the junior circuit—he suggests that Manager Preston Gomez might give serious consideration to putting Phoebus on relief.

Highly Qualified Reliever

"Tom made the adjustment from starter to reliever well last season," said Fontaine. "He could be effective either as a short or long man."

With the departure of Dave Roberts to the Astros, Phoebus also could be in the thick of the battle for a starting berth.

The way things stack up now, Clay Kirby and Steve Arlin figure to be

Nos. 1 and 2 starters. Scrambling for the other two spots in a four-man rotation will be Fred Norman, newcomer Bill Greif, Ed Acosta, Mike Corkins and Phoebus.

Corkins' best bet to make the staff appears to be in relief.

"If Mike makes up his mind he's going to be a reliever, he could be an outstanding one," said Gomez. "He can come into the game in a jam and strike you out."

Gomez put him in the bullpen upon his return to the Padres from Hawaii (Pacific Coast) last September and he was effective.

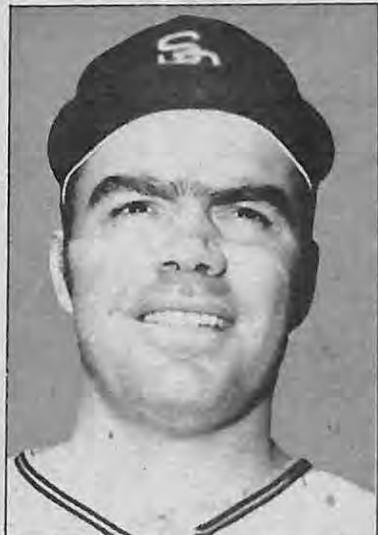
Gomez Likes Greif's Chances

The Padre manager is high on Greif, 21, acquired from the Astros in the Roberts trade.

"Two years ago, how many people knew Dave Roberts? He was in the same position as Greif is now. Dave needed to pitch and all Greif needs is the same opportunity," said Gomez. "He'll get every chance with us."

Greif was the winning pitcher (2-1) in the league's longest game last season—21 innings, Padres vs. Astros, September 24.

Padre Pickups: Darcy Fast, a lefthanded pitcher, ended a one-year retirement when he notified General Manager Eddie Leishman he'll report for spring training at Yuma, February 26. The former Cub operated an athletic supply business in Lacey, Wash., last season after going on the voluntary retired list. . . . Season ticket sales are running 25 percent ahead of last year, publicist Irv Grossman reported.



Tom Phoebus

deals of the week

MAJOR LEAGUES

Dodgers—Acquired catcher Chris Cannizzaro from Cubs on waivers.

Royals—Sold outfielder John Matias to Hawaii.

CLASS AAA

Evansville—Released infielder Roberto Pena.

Indianapolis—Traded infielder-outfielder Jimmy Qualis to Tucson for pitcher PatJacquez.

Tucson—Traded outfielder Bill Robinson to Eugene for catcher Jerry Rodriguez.

Tulsa—Traded pitcher Carroll Semper to Indianapolis for outfielder Danny Godby.

Oliva Reigns as '71 A. L. Batting King

Compiled by Howe News Bureau, Chicago, Ill.

Club	G.	AB.	R.	OR.	H.	TB.	2B.	3B.	HR.	RBI.	SH.	SF.	SB.	CS.	Pct.
Baltimore	158	5303	742	530	1382	2113	207	25	158	702	85	37	66	38	.261
Minnesota	160	5414	654	670	1406	2013	197	31	116	618	64	57	66	44	.260
Detroit	162	5502	701	645	1399	2226	214	38	179	62	37	35	43	254	
New York	162	5413	648	641	1377	1939	195	43	97	607	77	46	75	55	.254
Oakland	161	5494	691	564	1383	2108	195	25	160	642	80	38	80	53	.252
Boston	162	5401	691	667	1360	2145	246	28	161	650	75	47	51	34	.252
Chicago	162	5382	617	597	1346	2005	185	30	138	568	81	38	83	65	.250
Kansas City	161	5295	603	566	1323	1868	225	40	80	573	45	59	130	46	.250
Cleveland	162	5467	543	747	1303	1870	200	20	109	507	67	29	57	37	.238
California	162	5495	511	576	1271	1808	213	18	96	477	83	31	72	34	.231
Washington	159	5290	537	660	1219	1726	189	30	86	500	58	35	68	45	.230
Milwaukee	161	5185	534	609	1188	1706	160	23	104	496	107	39	82	53	.229
Totals	64641	7472	7472	15957	23537	2426	351	1484	6992	884	503	865	547	.247	

(Top Fifteen Qualifiers for Batting Championship—502 or More Plate Appearances)

*Bats lefthanded. †Switch-hitter.

Player and Club	G.	AB.	R.	H.	TB.	2B.	3B.	HR.	RBI.	SH.	SF.	SB.	CS.	Pct.
Oliva, Pedro (Tony), Minn.*	126	487	73	164	266	30	3	22	81	0	4	4	1	.337
Murcer, Bobby, New York*	146	529	94	175	287	25	6	25	94	1	3	14	8	.331
Rettenmund, Mervin, Baltimore	141	491	81	152	220	23	4	11	75	4	3	15	6	.318
Tovar, Cesar, Minnesota	157	657	94	204	242	29	3	1	45	11	2	18	14	.311
Carew, Rodney, Minnesota*	147	577	88	177	219	16	10	2	48	6	3	6	7	.307
Otis, Amos, Kansas City	147	555	80	167	246	26	4	15	79	2	8	52	8	.301
May, Carlos, Chicago*	141	500	64	147	203	21	7	7	70	1	5	16	7	.294
White, Roy, New York*	147	524	86	153	246	22	7	19	84	0	17	14	7	.292
Buford, Donald, Baltimore	122	449	99	130	214	19	4	19	54	2	2	15	7	.290
Uhlender, Theodore, Cleve.*	141	500	52	144	176	20	3	2	47	0	3	3	6	.288
Alou, Felipe, 2 Oak.-131 N.Y.	133	469	52	135	192	21	6	8	69	2	5	5	5	.288
Smith, C. Reginald, Boston*	159	618	85	175	302	33	2	30	96	1	5	11	3	.283
Cash, Norman, Detroit*	135	452	72	128	240	10	3	32	91	1	4	1	0	.283
Johnson, David, Baltimore	142	510	67	144	226	26	1	18	72	4	4	3	1	.282
Robinson, Frank, Baltimore	133	455	82	128	232	16	2	28	99	1	8	3	0	.281

DEPARTMENTAL LEADERS: G—Alomar, 162; AB—Alomar, 89; R—Buford, 99; H—Tovar, 204; TB—Smith, C. Reginald, 302; 2B—Smith, C. Reginald, 33; 3B—Patek, 11; HR—Meiton, 33; RBI—Killebrew, 119; SH—Theobald, 19; SF—White, 17; SB—Otis, 52; CS—Patek, Tovar, 14.

(All Players—Listed Alphabetically)

Player and Club	G.	AB.	R.	H.	TB.	2B.	3B.	HR.	RBI.	SH.	SF.	SB.	CS.	Pct.
Abernathy, Ted, Kansas City	63	13	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	.077
Aker, Jack, New York	41	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	2	1	.266
Allen, Bernard, Washington	97	229	18	61	88	11	1	4	22	0	0	2	1	.260
Allen, Lloyd, California	54	17	2	5	8	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	.294
Alomar, Santos, California	162	689	77	179	221	24	3	4	42	7	2	39	10	.260
Alou, Felipe, 2 Oak.-131 N.Y.	133	469	52	135	192	21	6	8	69	2	5	5	5	.288
Alvarado, Luis, Chicago	99	264	22	57	73	14	1	0	8	2	1	1	2	.216
Alyea, Garrabant, Minnesota	79	158	13	28	38	4	0	2	15	0	5	1	1	.177
Anderson, Dwain, Oakland	16	37	3	10	14	2	1	0	3	0	0	0	1	.270
Andrews, Michael, Chicago	109	330	45	93	145	16	0	12	47	6	4	3	5	.282
Aparicio, Luis, Boston	125	491	56	114	149	23	0	4	45	9	4	6	4	.232
Auerbach, Frederick, Milwaukee	79	236	22	48	61	10	0	1	9	5	0	3	2	.203
Austin, Rich, Cleveland	23	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Bahnsen, Stanley, New York	36	79	6	12	16	2	1	0	3	8	0	0	0	.152
Baker, Frank, Jr., Cleveland	73	181	18	38	55	12	1	1	23	0	1	1	3	.210
Baker, Frank W., New York	43	79	9	11	13	2	0	0	0	2	2	1	3	.139
Baldo, Salvatore, Oakland	153	538	75	146	243	23	1	24	94	6	5	3	7	.271
Barker, Steven, Minnesota	6	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Baylor, Donald, Baltimore	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Bearns, Lawrence, Milwaukee	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Belanger, Mark, Baltimore	150	500	67	133	160	19	4	0	35	6	4	10	8	.266
Bell, Jerry, Milwaukee	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Beniquez, Juan, Boston	16	57	8	17	19	2	0	0	4	3	0	3	1	.298
Berry, A. Kent, California	111	298	29	66	92	17	0	3	22	3	4	3	2	.221
Bevacqua, Kurt, Cleveland	55	137	9	28	42	3	1	3	13	1	3	0	0</td	



Complete 1971 A. L. Bat Averages

(Continued From Page 41)

COOKIE ROJAS ... Slickest fielding second baseman.

A. L. FIELDING

(Continued From Page 41)

Player and Club	G.	P.O.	A.	E.	D.P.	Pct.
Griffin, Bos.	124	311	9	90	.986	
Lownstein, Clev.	29	81	59	2	17	.986
Johnson, Balt.	140	361	367	12	103	.984
Leon, Clev.	107	235	271	9	71	.983
Clarke, N.Y.	156	386	455	16	97	.981
Carew, Minn.	142	321	329	16	76	.976
Kennedy, Bos.	37	71	76	4	16	.974
Theobald, Mil.	111	233	311	15	81	.973
Kubik, Mil.	48	119	115	7	23	.971
Bevacqua, Clev.	36	70	64	4	10	.971
DaVonan, Balt.	20	34	31	2	6	.970
McKinney, Chi.	67	148	159	10	34	.968
Knoop, K.C.	52	89	120	7	31	.968
Randle, Wash.	66	178	178	12	50	.967
Allen, Wash.	41	54	69	5	10	.961
Parker, Cal.	20	39	52	4	13	.958
Andrews, Chi.	76	177	191	17	51	.956

TRIPLE PLAY: Kubik.

(Fewer Than Ten Games)

Player and Club	G.	P.O.	A.	E.	D.P.	Pct.
Severon, K.C.	6	7	20	0	7	1.000
Floyd, K.C.	8	13	13	0	3	1.000
Gagliano, Bos.	7	10	12	0	2	1.000
Heise, Mil.	3	9	9	0	2	1.000
Hunter, Bos.	6	5	9	0	1	1.000
Grich, Balt.	2	5	7	0	2	1.000
Tovar, Minn.	2	1	4	0	1	1.000
Ruiz, Cal.	2	1	3	0	0	1.000
Hodge, Clev.	2	3	1	0	0	1.000
Wert, Wash.	1	2	1	0	0	1.000
Gutierrez, Det.	2	2	1	0	1	1.000
Stanley, Cle.	3	1	2	0	0	1.000
Davis, Oak.	3	0	3	0	0	1.000
Collins, Det.	1	1	1	0	0	1.000
Foy, Wash.	3	0	2	0	0	1.000
Jones, Det.	1	0	1	0	0	1.000
Nelson, Wash.	1	0	1	0	0	1.000
Schofield, Mil.	2	0	1	0	0	1.000
Blefary, Oak.	2	1	0	0	0	1.000
Gil, Mil.	8	19	23	1	3	.977
I. Brown, Det.	8	12	13	1	3	.962
Hansen, N.Y.	9	28	17	2	7	.957
O'Brien, Cal.	7	14	25	2	7	.951
Salmon, Balt.	9	26	12	2	5	.950
Thompson, Minn.	3	4	6	1	0	.909
Morales, Chi.	3	2	5	1	1	.875
Anderson, Oak.	5	8	4	2	0	.857
LaRussa, Oak.	7	4	1	1	1	.833
Harper, Mil.	1	1	1	1	1	.667
Pena, Mil.	1	0	0	0	0	.000
Matchick, Mil.	1	0	0	0	0	.000

THIRD BASEMEN

Player and Club	G.	P.O.	A.	E.	D.P.	Pct.
Brown, Oak.	10	4	10	0	1	1.000
Schofield, Mil.	12	4	9	0	2	1.000
Matchick, Mil.	41	31	62	2	6	.979
Petrocelli, Bos.	156	118	334	11	37	.976
Nettles, Clev.	158	159	142	16	54	.973
Pena, Mil.	37	21	49	2	7	.972
Bando, Oak.	153	141	267	12	22	.971
Melton, Chi.	116	371	16	26	.968	
B. Robinson, Bal.	151	131	354	16	35	.968
McMullen, Cal.	158	137	344	17	27	.966
Foy, Wash.	37	44	77	5	12	.960
Rodriguez, Det.	153	127	341	23	33	.953
Kenney, N.Y.	109	69	237	15	20	.953
Kosco, Mil.	12	8	12	1	0	.952
Maddox, Wash.	12	4	14	1	3	.947
Allen, Wash.	34	31	57	5	6	.946
Soderholm, Minn.	20	17	48	4	2	.942
Heise, Mil.	11	4	12	1	1	.941
Schaal, K.C.	161	107	335	28	31	.940
Nelson, Wash.	84	63	149	14	15	.938
Cater, N.Y.	52	41	111	10	7	.938
Braun, Minn.	70	71	115	13	10	.935
Killebrew, Minn.	73	48	106	11	7	.933
Ellis, Mil.	19	13	23	3	5	.923
Hansen, N.Y.	30	16	51	6	9	.918
Jones, Det.	13	4	16	2	2	.909
Thompson, Minn.	17	9	17	3	2	.897
Morales, Chi.	18	7	16	3	3	.885

(Fewer Than Ten Games)

Player and Club	G.	P.O.	A.	E.	D.P.	Pct.
Huntz, Chi.	6	7	13	0	1	1.000
O'Brien, Cal.	6	5	12	0	0	1.000
Kennedy, Bos.	5	2	13	0	1	1.000
Collins, Det.	4	1	5	0	0	1.000
Davis, Oak.	2	1	4	0	0	1.000
Carew, Minn.	2	3	2	0	0	1.000
Bevacqua, Clev.	3	3	2	0	0	1.000
Hodge, Clev.	3	3	1	0	1	1.000
Gutierrez, Det.	5	1	3	0	1	1.000
Gil, Mil.	6	1	3	0	0	1.000
Taylor, Det.	3	1	2	0	0	1.000
Gagliano, Bos.	4	1	2	0	0	1.000
Boehmer, N.Y.	1	1	1	0	0	1.000
T. Reynolds, Cal.	1	1	1	0	0	1.000
Ruiz, Cal.	3	1	1	0	0	1.000
Williams, Chi.	1	0	1	0	0	1.000
Theobald, Mil.	1	0	1	0	0	1.000
Morales, Chi.	1	0	1	0	0	1.000
Billings, Wash.	2	1	0	0	0	1.000
DaVonan, Balt.	3	1	0	0	0	1.000
Harrah, Wash.	7	6	14	1	1	.952

SHORTSTOP

Player and Club	G.	P.O.	A.	E.	D.P.	Pct.
Christensen, Cal.	24	25	55	1	13	.988
Cardenas, Minn.	153	266	445	11	89	.985
Pena, Mil.	23	22	45	1	9	.985
Brinkman, Det.	159	235	513	15	91	.980
Braun, Minn.	10	18	29	1	6	.979
Belanger, Balt.	149	280	443	16	77	.978
Heidemann, Clev.	81	113	188	7	34	.977
Michael, N.Y.</						



Deron Johnson . . . Swap Bait Despite Banner Year.

Phillies on Trade Block Wait for Phone to Ring

By ALLEN LEWIS

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—Four members of the Phillies spent most of December wondering every time their telephone rang—wondering if that was the call which would tell them where they would be playing baseball in 1972.

None of the four—first baseman Deron Johnson, second baseman Denny Doyle, catcher Tim McCarver and relief pitcher Joe Hoerner—received such a call last month, but each knows it still might come. It might come before spring training starts, before the season opens or even before the intraleague trading deadline of June 15.

Three of the four, excluding only Doyle, had what must be rated as pretty good seasons in 1971, but they were dangled as trade bait because they have a little age. The Phillies, who finished last in the National League's Eastern Division in 1971, need starting pitching.

The Phillies put an untouchable label on six of their promising youngsters—first baseman Greg Luzinski, third baseman Don Money, shortstop Larry Bowa, outfielders Willie Montanez and Mike Anderson and pitcher Rick Wise—and have been almost frantically trying to complete a trade with no restrictions on anyone else on the roster.

Although he doesn't say anything critical about it, the player who might have the most to complain about over being offered for trade is Johnson, who had one of the finest seasons of his career last year.

In addition to playing a classy first base, the position he always has been best suited for, Deron had a big year with the bat.

Johnson clouted 34 homers to rank fourth in the major leagues, drove in 95 runs and compiled a .265 batting average while playing in 158 games. On the Phillies, in addition to leading the club in homers, he ranked second in average, RBIs and games played.

Luzinski Likely to Play First Base

Although only 32, Johnson also ranked as the oldest regular on the club, which feels it has a great prospect to succeed Deron at first base in Luzinski. All that added up to the need for a trade involving the husky San Diegan.

"In baseball, you never know where you're going until you get there," Deron said recently. "Sure, I've been hearing things. It's rough. Not so rough on us (the players). It's the families."

"I've been traded before," said Johnson, who played for the Yankees, Athletics, Reds and Braves before coming to the Phillies in the fall of 1968. "I can't tell them what to do. I can't wheel and deal for them."

Johnson, of course, isn't surprised by the inclusion of his name in trade rumors. He voluntarily moved over to third base for the last month of last season so that Luzinski, a one-position player, could see action at first.

"I know baseball," Johnson said of his possible trade. "You could tell at the end of last year they were planning to do something with me. You get a feeling. You don't have to be told. It's something you have to live with."

But Johnson added a word of caution about depending too much on rookies.

"Youth's great," he said, "if it all comes through. You must have production. You just can't give anybody away. If they don't have me, Timmy (McCarver) and Willie (Montanez) in the lineup, the Phillies are not too powerful. Facts are facts."

Phillie Fodder: McCarver, who is taking piano lessons, still has his sense of humor. "I was talking to (Phillies' infielder) Bobby Pfeil the other day," Tim said with a laugh, "and he said (Phillies' trainer) Don Seger wanted to know how I could take piano lessons with my hands." . . . Tim went on his annual hunting trip after the season.

Richards Picks Aug. 31, 1973, Date When Hank Beats Babe

By WAYNE MINSHEW

ATLANTA, Ga.—Braves' Vice-President Paul Richards could be serving his last term here. He has been roundly criticized for not being able to deal for a capable pitcher at the recent winter meetings. He recently consented to a question-answer session in which he candidly answered questions about himself and the Braves.

It follows:

Q.—You are serving the final year of your present contract. Do you feel the Braves must produce a winner, or least be a strong contender, if you are to return in 1973?

Richards—I feel sure there will be considerable disenchantment if we don't do well, in spite of the fact that the Braves' personnel, both on and off the field, has been improved close to 100 percent. Regardless of who might be here in '73, they might not see another year in which the Braves will be able to produce five big league players previously untried in a single year, namely: Williams, Garr, Perez, Lum and Evans.

Paul Conceding Nothing

Q.—If the season began tomorrow, whom would you pick as the team to beat in the National League West Division?

Richards—With Carty and Cepeda able to play, we will concede not a single out to any club in our division.

Q.—You have explained your reasons for not trading during the off-season and at the winter meetings. You wanted a pitcher. Is it possible the Braves' pitching staff could surprise in the coming season?

Richards—I have to believe that Stone, Jarvis and Reed are better pitchers than they showed last year. I know Upshaw was handicapped from inactivity for a full year, and, with the certain knowledge that Tom Kelley is a major league pitcher, I have to believe he will be better.



Paul Richards

Q.—Isn't it expecting a lot of two untried and comparatively inexperienced pitchers such as Jamie Easterly and Jimmy Freeman to become big league pitchers next season?

Richards—That's all relative. Was it too much to expect that kid Kison to do as well as he did in the World Series? They're comparable in age to him. Don Gullett is another example. He came right out of high school. If you can throw the ball over the plate with something on it, you have a chance. One year in Baltimore, we had six pitchers to pitch well with no previous experience to speak of—Fisher, Walker, Barber, Pappas, Stock and Estrada.

Q.—Are there other young pitchers who might make it next season?

Richards—Tom House, Gary Neibauer, Mike Beard and Larry Click. . . . All of them have somewhat of a chance.

Cepeda in Action

Q.—What are the latest medical reports on Rico Carty and Orlando Cepeda?

Richards—Cepeda is playing, so evidently he's in fairly good shape. We expect Carty to start playing in January.

Q.—Is there any more to report on the Hank Aaron-at-third-base experiment?

Richards—No, that will depend on a lot of things.

Q.—Speaking of Aaron, how do you regard his chances of breaking Babe Ruth's career home run record of 714?

Richards—Given good health, I think he is a shoo-in. August 31, 1973. Put that down. He'll break the record or tie it on that date.

Q.—You have been criticized by fans and press in a negative fashion. How does it affect you?

Richards—It has no effect whatsoever as to what I do. I was first criticized in Atlanta when I man-

(Continued on Page 44, Column 3)

Bateman Faces Suet-Slapping Regimen

By IAN MacDONALD

MONTREAL, Que.—It was a simple decision for John Bateman, especially with the threat of fines for excess suet hanging over him like that Greek sword everyone's always talking about.

So the Expos' catcher and wife Frieda will head straight for West Palm Beach after his "last meal" Christmas Day with Oklahoma relatives.

John's hassle is that he invariably tends to get a little paunchy in the off-season, and Manager Gene Mauch does not appreciate that.

He's got until March 1 to lose 26 pounds and get down to the 199 Mauch insists upon.

Otherwise, the fines will commence.

Bateman, who admits to having paid about \$2,500 in such fines over the last two years, figures he'd better get to Florida fast to start knocking off those pounds before training camp opens.

As he said to Frieda, "We can either spend the \$1,000 in fines or go to Florida early and spend it on a few extra weeks at the beach."

John Willing to Follow Orders

As for Mauch's punishment scheme, John said, "He isn't doing it just for the money. I may not agree with him about weight, but if that's what the man says, then that's the way it's going to be."

But when asked how much he weighed the year he hit 17 homers, drove in 70 runs and hit .279 while playing 131 games for the Astros in 1966, Bateman's face lit up.

"I'm glad you asked that," he answered glowingly.

"The fact is I weighed between 225 and 230 the entire year."

Although Bateman said he can't remember ever having showed up at training camp under 200 pounds, he's determined to do it this time.

"I know one thing. It'll make the rest of training camp a lot easier," John said.

"And it'll make it a lot easier to catch 140 or more games."



John Bateman . . . He'll Pay for Pounds.

Official American League Glove Averages

(Continued From Page 42)

Player and Club	G.	P.O.	A.	E.	DP.	Pct.
Player and Club	G.	P.O.	A.	E.	DP.	Pct.
Plinella, K C	115	201	6	3	2	.986
Nettles, Minn*	62	139	3	2	1	.986
Alou, 2 Oak-						
80 N Y	82	136	3	2	0	.986
W. G. Brown, Det	56	68	2	1	0	.986
Murcer, Clev	143	317	10	5	1	.985
Baker, Clev	51	65	2	1	1	.985
Monday, Oak*	111	238	6	4	1	.984
Conigliaro, Bos	100	232	5	4	2	.983
Keough, K C*	100	164	4	3	1	.982
Unser, Wash*	152	394	10	8	2	.981
Northrup, Det	108	205	4	4	0	.981
Hendrick, Oak	36	52	1	1	0	.981
Cardenal, Mil	52	133	6	3	0	.979
Pinson, Cleve	141	305	11	7	2	.978
T. Reynolds, Cal	26	43	2	1	1	.978
Jackson, Oak	145	285	15	7	3	.977
Rettenuend, Ba	134	292	7	7	4	.977
Billings, Wash	32	41	2	1	0	.977
Rivers, Cal*	75	159	5	4	2	.976
May, Mil	142	342	10	9	3	.975
Harper, Mil	90	155	2	4	0	.975
Mitchell, Mil	19	35	2	1	1	.974
F. Robinson, Balt	92	177	3	5	0	.973

Player and Club	G.	P.O.	A.	E.	DP.	Pct.
Blomberg, N Y	57	96	1	3	1	.970
Oliva, Minn	121	216	6	7	3	.969
Miller, Bos*	14	30	1	1	0	.969
Johnstone, Chi	119	232	9	8	1	.968
R. Foster, Clev	107	174	9	6	2	.968
Smith, Bos	159	386	15	14	2	.966
Burroughs, Wash	50	82	3	3	0	.966
Brye, Minn	28	53	4	2	0	.966
Swoboda, N Y	47	80	2	3	0	.965
Taylor, K C	12	27	0	1	0	.964
Horton, Det	118	176	8	7	1	.963
Aluya, Minn	47	47	3	2	0	.962
Hershberger, Chi	59	96	1	4	0	.960
Ellis, Mil	15	24	0	1	0	.960
Briggs, Mil*	65	110	4	5	1	.958
McCraw, Wash*	60	90	1	4	0	.958
Richard, Chi	16	20	3	1	1	.958
Ogilvie, Bos*	11	22	1	1	1	.958
Bleifary, 6 N Y						
14 Oak	20	21	2	1	0	.958
Valdespino, K C*	15	18	1	1	0	.950
Lowenstein, Clev	18	17	1	1	0	.947
Flood, Wash	10	16	0	1	0	.941
Blittner, Wash*	41	72	6	5	0	.940
Scheinblum, Wash	13	23	5	2	1	.933
Walton, 19 Mil						
4 N Y	23	28	0	2	0	.933
Davis, Oak	16	27	0	2	0	.931
Bradford, Clev	18	39	1	3	0	.930
Johnson, Cal	61	84	3	7	0	.926
Smith, Mil	12	11	1	1	0	.923
Paepke, K C	17	21	0	2	0	.913

(Fewer Than Ten Games)

Player and Club	G.	P.O.	A.	E.	DP.	Pct.
Torres, N Y	5	13	0	0	0	1.000
Garrett, Oak	5	9	0	0	0	1.000
Harrelson, Clev	7	9	0	0	0	1.000
Fernandez, Wash	6	7	1	0	0	1.000
Renick, Minn	7	8	0	0	0	1.000
Fregosi, Cal	7	7	1	0	0	1.000
Reese, Minn*	9	6	1	0	0	1.000
Clark, Clev	3	6	0	0	0	1.000
Lane, Det	6	6	0	0	0	1.000
Hottman, Chi	5	5	0	0	0	1.000
Baylor, Balt*	1	4	0	0	0	1.000
Crowley, Balt*	6	4	0	0	0	1.000
Collins, Det	2	3	0	0	0	1.000
Lolich, Chi	2	1	0	0	0	1.000
Tepedino, N Y*	1	1	0	0	0	1.000
O'Brien, Cal	1	1	0	0	0	1.000
May, Chi	9	17	1	1	0	.947
Woods, N Y	9	13	0	1	0	.929
I. Brown, Det	9	10	0	1	0	.909
Bevacqua, Clev	5	4	0	1	0	.800
Hejan, Oak*	2	2	0	1	0	.667
Braun, Minn	2	0	0	0	0	.000
Morales, Chi	1	0	0	0	0	.000
Tenace, Oak	1	0	0	0	0	.000
Silverio, Cal*	1	0	0	0	0	.000
Munson, N Y	1	0	0	0	0	.000
Manuel, Minn	1	0	0	0	0	.000
Freehan, Det	1	0	0	0	0	.000
Heise, Mil	1	0	0	0	0	.000
Rojas, K C	1	0	0	0	0	.000
Moses, Cal	1	0	0	0	0	.000

Player and Club	G.	P.O.	A.	E.	DP.	Pct.
Brinkman, Chi	14	45	4	0	0	3.000
Munson, N Y	117	547	67	1	4	.998
May, K C	71	314	38	1	6	.997
Freehan, Det	144	912	50	4	6	.996
Herrmann, Chi	97	556	56	3	5	.995
Tenace, Oak	52	300	20	2	3	.994
Paepke, K C	32	139	15	1	1	.994
Suarez, Clev	48	268	14	2	3	.993

(CATCHERS)

Player and Club	G.	P.O.	A.	E.	DP.	Pct.
Perry, Minn	40	17	44	0	4	1.000
Parsons, Mil	36	22	35	0	4	1.000
McLain, Wash	33	27	26	0	1	1.000
Dobson, Oak	30	15	30	0	2	1.000
Kekich, N Y*	37	5	37	0	1	1.000
Hunter, Oak	37	15	26	0	1	1.000
Blue, Oak*	39	15	24	0	1	1.000
Fingers, Oak	48	14	24	0	4	1.000
Romo, Chi	45	0	19	0	1	1.000
Timmerman, Det	52	4	14	0	2	1.000
Pina, Wash	56	3	14	0	2	1.000
Leonard, Balt	12	3	13	0	1	1.000
McDaniel, N Y	44	2	14	0	0	1.000
Brown, Wash	14	6	9	0	1	1.000
Luebber, Minn	18	2	12	0	1	1.000
Farmer, Clev	43	2	12	0	2	1.000



A YOUNG FAN presents a Dodger cap to Bill Buckner for autographing at the Christmas party.

200 Youngsters Guests At Dodger Yule Party

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — More than 200 children attended the Dodgers' annual Christmas Party at the Stadium Club.

The children were from the Catholic Youth Organization, Direction Sports, Eastside Boys' Club, Neighborhood Adult Participation Project and Westminster Neighborhood Association.

Greeting the children at the Stadium Club were Willie and Dee Crawford, Bill and Mary Ann Grabarkewitz, Joe and Lee Moeller, Don and Patti Sutton, Sandy and Dee Vance, Bill Buckner, Al Downing, Jim Gilliam, Duke Sims, Willie Davis and Wes Parker.

The children were entertained by a clown and treated to cake and ice cream.

After the activity in the Stadium Club, Santa Claus passed out gift packages to the children near the 55-foot Christmas tree at the stadium.

The tree has 1,200 25-watt lights (orange and white) and is visible from the downtown area and six major freeways. The lights will be on every night until after New Year's Day.

Yes, Virginia, Santa Claus Is Umpire

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — For six months each year, not many people have a kind word for Paul Maltby. In fact, you wouldn't believe the names he's called.

But for one month—from the day after Thanksgiving to December 25—Paul Maltby is the hero of heroes, a man with legions of admirers and not a single enemy.

He's Santa Claus!

The 30-year-old bachelor, a Texas League umpire in the summer, has been a Santa Claus at Macy's department store here for the last four years. He loves it.

"Being Santa Claus is a lot different than being an umpire, believe me," said Maltby in the understatement of the year. "The kids all love me and believe I'm the real thing."

There have been a lot of changes in the attitude of players over the years, but kids are still pretty much the same, Maltby observes.

Girls Want Dolls

"The little boys still ask for cars, marbles and bikes," he noted.

"And the little girls still want dolls and doll houses."

The batters, he might have added, still want all pitches to be called balls.

Maltby enjoys children and baseball on the same high level.

"I never played professional ball," he said, "but I was always crazy about the game. There are a lot of pro players living in Sacramento and they fired up my inter-

est. Since I wasn't good enough to be a player, I decided to be an umpire."

So Maltby attended Al Somers' umpiring school and after graduation was hired by the California League in 1969. He spent that year and 1970 on the west coast and then was promoted to the Texas League division of the Dixie Association for 1971.

He is scheduled to return to Bobby Bragan's circuit next year for more seasoning.

This fall he worked in the Arizona

Burke Undergoes Eye Surgery

NEW YORK, N. Y.—The Yankee family received a couple of shocks in mid-December when Michael Burke, club president, underwent eye surgery for a detached retina and newly acquired Rich McKinney suffered burns at a beach party in Puerto Rico.

Burke's eye bothered him during the meetings in Phoenix, but he kept it completely quiet until the operation was over. The doctors report the operation was a complete success and that Burke is in no danger of losing his sight.

After 10 days in the hospital, Mike will complete his convalescing at home. He is not permitted any visitors or phone calls.

McKinney, who had been moved to third base preparing for his Yankee debut, was at a beach party with other players and their families and either fell or stepped into the fire. He returned to his Ohio home and is finished with winter ball for the season.

The Yankees will run a check on McKinney's condition and if he isn't healing quickly, Rich may be brought into New York for an examination by Dr. Sidney Gaynor, the Yankee team physician.

Former Yankee relief ace Luis Arroyo, who scouts for the Yankees in Puerto Rico, called to report on McKinney. Luis says the burns didn't appear to be serious enough to endanger Rich's playing next season.

caught on the fly

SEEBERG JOINS ANGELS

Tom Seeberg has been named community coordinator of public relations for the Angels. Seeberg, 37, will direct the group sales department, speakers' bureau and will organize a series of instructional clinics for youth and coaches in addition to working with industry, commerce, civic and social groups as representative of the California club. Since January, 1971, Seeberg had been director of group sales for the Dodgers.

The Charleston Charlies (International) named Ward Goodrich general manager of the club December 7. Goodrich, 46, succeeds Jim Mills, who resigned after the 1971 season. Goodrich, who has held various front office positions in the minors since 1959, was general manager of the Bend (Northwest) club last year.

Phoenix, which lost out to Salt Lake City in the Pacific Coast League Southern Division race last season, has announced the rehiring of Jim Davenport as manager of the Giants in 1972. Phoenix General Manager Rosy Ryan, in making the announcement, said, "The players gave their maximum for Jim. And

that's something you don't always find these days."

Eight non-roster players, including seven pitchers, will train with the Phillies next spring in Clearwater. The pitchers are Mac Scarce, standout reliever in the 1971 Florida Instructional League; Rick Fusaro, Bob Browning, Dave Downs, Bob Terlicki, Mike Fremuth and Roger Quiroga. The eighth player is catcher Jim Essian.

FOX TO WICHITA

Marshall Fox, owner and general manager of the Jacksonville (Southern) club, said December 14 he had accepted the position of general manager with the Cubs' Wichita (American Association) operation for 1972. Fox is in the process of negotiating the sale of the Jacksonville club, which recently signed a three-year working agreement with the Royals. John Cox, general manager of Burlington (Midwest) for the past two years, also will join the Wichita club in a front-office capacity. Cox, 28, said he was recommended for the position by Jim Marshall, '72 Wichita pilot.

New Evansville (American Association) Owner Don Labruzzo has announced the hiring of three aides to complete the Triplets' front-office staff for next season. Tom Coyne, 24, who worked in the Pirate ticket office in 1971, was named business manager. Public relations will be handled by Gary D. Jones, 28, while Rick Richardson, 22, will be in charge of sales and promotions. Richardson was public relations director at Oklahoma City last year.

"I've fulfilled my baseball dreams," said catcher Clay Dalrymple in announcing his retirement as an active player December 14. Dalrymple, 35, who was released by Baltimore and assigned to Rochester (International) following the World Series, said he would take a full-time position as a manufacturers' representative with a Philadelphia plumbing company. Dalrymple, a veteran of 12 major league seasons, three with the Orioles, has worked for the Philadelphia firm in the off-season since 1964.

TIGERS PROMOTE SCOUTS

Three members of the Tigers' scouting staff have been promoted to scouting supervisors. They are Wayne Blackburn, Frank Skaff and Jack Tighe, all of whom have experience as managers and coaches as well as scouts. Also, Detroit made three additions to its scouting staff, Charlie Metro, Emil Gall and Jon Hockenberry. As previously announced, Metro will be a special assignment scout, Gall will work in the Long Island area and Hockenberry in the Los Angeles area.

An \$87,000 contract has been awarded to a Cincinnati contractor to raze Crosley Field, former home of the Reds, to make room for an urban development project. Crosley Field currently serves as a lot for automobiles impounded by the Cincinnati police department.

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Mrs. Gehrig Asks Board to Save Yankee Stadium

(Continued From Page 48)

for \$24,000,000 to insure that the Yankees continue to play there.

Mrs. Lou Gehrig was one of the group.

"I never thought I'd be called on to beg for Yankee Stadium," she said and the emotion in her voice hushed the packed room. "But I am begging," she said. "I beg you really. I beg you to remember a great tradition: that of Jacob Ruppert, who built the stadium; Babe Ruth, who slugged for it, and Lou Gehrig, who picked up a few bricks for it."

Six-Month Study Okayed

After the board heard Mrs. Gehrig, Allen and Toots Shor plead for the stadium and a few condemn the proposition, the board voted 16-6 approving a \$225,000, six-month study, which would determine whether the city's purchase of the stadium is feasible.

Mayor Lindsay read a letter to the board from Michael Burke, president of the Yankees. "Our preference is to remain in the Bronx," Burke said, but added that this was conditional on whether the city lived up to its part of the bargain, particularly in improving access roads and parking facilities.

Norman Redlich, first assistant corporation counsel, told the hearing that he is convinced that the Yankees have given assurances approaching a legal commitment that they intend to remain in New York. And Allen said that even if trans-

portation and parking problems were insurmountable, he still wanted to see the Yankees remain here.

But there were some at the meeting who were not warm with memories.

Sanford Garellick, president of the City Council, said he considered the plan "fiscally unsound." He said

there were more pressing needs such as bus passes for school children and the restoration of after-school facilities.

Assemblyman Louis DiSalvo, said, "People need housing, not baseball parks."

And three women representing the Women's Liberation point of view

suggested that the money should be used to develop sports in which women have an active interest, such as tennis and bicycling, for child care and for more abortion clinics.

Toots Shor shook his head. "Soon New York won't be New York any more," he said.

Newsday

obituaries

Dominic (Mike) Ryba, believed to be the only man who ever pitched and caught in both major leagues, died in Springfield, Mo., December 13 after falling from a ladder while trimming tree limbs. He was 68.

Ryba had a long and varied career in baseball as a player, coach, manager and scout. At the time of his death he was a scout for the Cardinals, the organization with which he started.

Ryba languished in the minors for eight years before he was given a chance by the Cardinals in 1935. He was with the Redbirds as a pitcher, and occasionally a catcher, until 1939 when he was hustled back to Rochester. From 1941 through 1946 he was with the Red Sox as a pitcher and also a sub catcher.

It was difficult for Ryba to pinpoint just why he didn't get a major league shot until he was 32. Some-

Bobby Jones, the only golfer to win the grand slam—the U. S. Open and Amateur and the British Open and Amateur—died in Atlanta December 18 after a long illness. Details on Page 29.

times he blamed Branch Rickey, the architect of the farm system, and other times he blamed his versatility.

"I could play any position and this made me pretty valuable in the minors," Ryba once recalled. "If I had specialized in pitching—or at another position—I think I'd have been more successful."

Not An Ace With Rickey

What really made Ryba determined to become a successful major leaguer, though, was Rickey's statement calling Mike a "good minor leaguer and nothing more."

"I vowed I'd show Rickey," said Ryba. Mike, who was tagged with his nickname by Bill McKechnie, was primarily a relief pitcher and compiled a 52-34 major league mark. His batting average was .235.

As a member of the old school, Ryba had difficulty in understanding the attitude of modern-day players.

Although he attended St. Francis College in Loretto, Pa., for two years, he still worked in the coal mines in Pennsylvania, even after he was in the minors.

"I couldn't get out of the mines fast enough once I started earning respectable money," said Ryba. "In the winter I never saw the sun except on Sundays."

Some of the things he saw as a minor league manager and Cardinal coach disgusted him.

When he was a coach in 1954 he was burned up by the attitude of some players, especially during spring training.

Some Only Have Buicks

"The biggest thing on their minds now," he maintained, "was who'd drive their Cadillacs home after we break camp. I don't mean all of them have Cadillacs. Some of them have only Buicks."

"You can't imagine the gripes you hear. Too much night ball. Too much traveling. Not enough meal money. The air conditioning is terrible. And all the time they're getting paid big for playing a game that's fun. They owe the game more than it owes them."

He also was a little perplexed as a scout.

"When you talk with good prospects instead of you interviewing them, they interview you," he sighed. "They're just as talented as the players in other eras, but they just don't want to work as hard. Any time I could play baseball, I regarded it as a vacation."

There's no question Ryba worked hard during the more than 40 years he was in the sport.

As he shuffled through the minors, playing in at least a dozen leagues, he earned most valuable player honors in four—the International, American Association, Middle Atlantic and Western Association.

As a manager at Lynn, Louisville, Houston, Ardmore and Cedar Rapids, he drove his players hard and this, in part, was one of the reasons he might have lost his job at Louisville.

Ryba spent most of his time in the Cardinal organization, although he was a manager in the Red Sox chain and also for Cincinnati for several years.

He hated to quit playing—he was a Red Sox pitcher at 41—and liked to have some of the action when he was managing.

He once recalled that he had played every position in baseball, which prompted Lefty Gomez, the former Yankee pitcher, to crack:

"Mike, I took a poll on who were the ugliest men in baseball and you won all nine positions."

Ferd M. Schupp, who pitched for four teams in a 10-year major league career that started in 1913, died in Los Angeles December 16 after a long illness. He was 81.

A lefthander, Schupp gained his greatest prominence with the Giants for whom he pitched seven years. In 1916, when he had a 9-3 record, Schupp had an earned-run average of only 0.90, but didn't qualify for the record because he worked only 140 innings and completed only eight games.

His 21-7 mark in 1917 helped propel the Giants into the World Series against the White Sox. He appeared in two games, winning one with a 5-0 shutout. Chicago won the Series.

Frequently bothered by arm trouble, Schupp had only one other successful season after leaving the Giants. That was in 1920 when he was 16-13 with the Cardinals. He also hurled for the Dodgers and the White Sox before going to the minors in 1923.

Dick Tiger, 42, former world middleweight and light-heavyweight boxing champion, died of cancer of the liver in Aba, Nigeria, December 14.

Tiger, who had a 61-17-3 record, was born Dick Ihetu. After he became prominent in boxing, he spent much of his time in the United States, but decided to return home to his native Nigeria when he became seriously ill.

An Ibo tribesman, Tiger at one time was worth several million dollars in Nigeria. He had a chauffeur, Mercedes-Benz and a large, expensive house.

But he lost everything in the bloody civil war between Nigeria and Biafra. He served as a lieutenant in Biafra's army.

Shortly before returning home, he

worked for \$96 a week as a men's room attendant at the American Museum of National History in New York.

Jackie Moreland, 33, who played professional basketball with the Detroit Pistons and the New Orleans Buccaneers, died of cancer in New Orleans December 19.

Moreland, who earned a degree in civil engineering at Louisiana Tech, was a Little All-America twice and the Pistons' No. 1 choice in the National Basketball Association draft in 1960.

He played for the Pistons five years, dropped out of basketball for two and then signed with the New Orleans American Basketball Association club in 1967. When the franchise was moved to Memphis in 1970, he retired.

Johnny Addie, who was the ring announcer for more than 100 championship fights, died in New York of a blood infection December 20. He was 69.

An impeccable and precise figure, Addie was familiar to millions of fight fans who saw him on television. He was the announcer at Madison Square Garden for 25 years and also a Wall Street broker.

Among survivors is a brother, Bob Addie, a sportswriter for the Washington Post and columnist for THE SPORTING NEWS.

Arthur R. (Art) Dede, a veteran scout with the Yankees and Dodgers, died in Keene, N. H., recently. He was 76.

Dede had only a brief career as a player, seeing action as a catcher in one game for Brooklyn in 1916. Until he joined the Dodger scouting staff in 1947, he spent most of his time as a semi-pro manager and player in the New York area.

He scouted for the Dodgers until 1958, then joined the Yankees and remained with them until his death.

Homer T. Cole, former trainer for the Chicago Bears and a college football coach for several years, died in Decatur, Ill., December 14. He was 64.

Cole, who lived in Macon, Ill., was the Bears' trainer from 1936 to 1948, with the exception of three years when he coached Navy teams during World War II.

A graduate of the University of Illinois, Cole was football coach at Eastern Illinois University and an assistant at North Carolina State.

Troy P. Agnew, who spent more than 40 years in baseball as a player, manager and club owner, died recently in Augusta, Ga.

For many years, Agnew operated the Augusta club, retiring in 1954. He was a manager at Okmulgee, Augusta, Rocky Mount and Richmond and was a catcher with Vincennes, Columbus, Danville, Stockton, Joplin, Waco and New Orleans.

Edgar L. Kaw, a two-time All-America halfback at Cornell and a member of the College Football Hall of Fame, died in Walnut Creek, Calif., December 13. He was 74.

Kaw, who also was a punter, was named an All-American in 1921 and again in 1922. Cornell was undefeated both years.

Puerto Rican Pacers

LEADING BATTERS

Player—Club	AB.	H.	HR.	RBI.	Pct.
Richie Zisk, San Juan	165	61	10	37	.370
Hank Rivera, Ponce	190	65	0	17	.342
Alex Johnson, Caguas	121	41	3	25	.339
Pat Corrales, Ponce	174	55	2	22	.316
Jose Benitez, Arecibo	127	40	3	9	.315
Don Baylor, Santurce	175	54	7	19	.309
Jim Hicks, Arecibo	131	40	9	20	.305
Bernie Carbo, Ponce	144	43	8	28	.299
Angel Mangual, Ca-Ar	133	39	2	13	.293
Rennie Stennett, S.J.	158	46	1	13	.291

LEADING PITCHERS

Pitcher—Club	IP.	SO.	W.	L.	ERA.
John Strohmayer, Cag.	86	48	6	2	1.98
Rogelio Moret, Santurce	84	50	8	1	2.03
Chris Zachary, Ponce	64	43	6	1	2.04
Jim Magnuson, Ponce	55	39	6	2	2.06
Bruce Kison, San Juan	54	40	6	3	2.49
Julio Navarro, Caguas	47	44	5	1	2.51
Ray Corbin, Mayaguez	98	69	4	6	2.66

Alcaraz Makes Arecibo Trade Pay Off Quickly

By MIGUEL FRAU

BAYAMON, P. R.—A mid-week trade between Caguas and Arecibo involving the Mangual brothers and Luis Alcaraz (Tucson) paid off for the Wolves December 18 when Alcaraz, who'd come over from the Criollo roster a couple of days earlier, stepped to the plate with the bases loaded in the ninth inning and his club trailing, 5-3.

Alcaraz bombed the ball over both outfield fences to give Arecibo a 6-5 triumph. What happened to the other run? Well, Luis, in the excitement of beating his old teammates, neglected to touch home plate and his homer went into the record books as a three-run triple.

Alcaraz and Jose Mangual earlier were swapped to Arecibo for Angel Mangual (Athletics). Angel made the deal look good for a time by collecting a home run in the game himself, one which gave the Criollos an early lead.

First Triple Play

The same day at Bithorn Stadium in San Juan, Mayaguez turned over the first triple play of the season, and it helped the Indians defeat Santurce, 7-2.

With Ike Brown (Tigers) and Don Baylor (Orioles) aboard in the second inning, the Crabbers' Chico Diaz (Peninsula) lined to Mayaguez center fielder Graig Nettles (Indians). Baylor was run down near second base and Brown, who'd been off at the crack of the bat from second, was tagged out near home plate by catcher Hector Valle.

Rookie Raul Colon's two-run single drove home the decisive runs for Mayaguez.

Puerto Rican Report: The Pirates got some bad news December 17 when X-rays showed infielder Jose Pagan had suffered a fracture of the right arm the previous night when he was struck by a pitch in a game against Caguas. Pagan will be out of the San Juan lineup for the remainder of the season.

The Senators, playing well and beginning to pull away from the pack, got some more bad news December 18 when they learned that the former owner and president of the club, Mario Nevares, had died in a Boston hospital. Nevares, who'd raised horses following his retirement as the Senators' owner, was 63. . . . Hank Rivera (Peninsula), who's always up among the top hitters here, was closing in on leader Richie Zisk (Pirates). The Ponce star had three hits December 18 against San Juan while Zisk took the collar for the Senators, who fell to the Lions, 8-5.

Puerto Rican League

(Standing Monday a.m., Dec. 20)

Club	W.	L.	Pct.	GB.
San Juan	29	20	.592	...
Ponce	28	24	.538	2½
Caguas	25	26	.490	5
Santurce	24	25	.490	5
Mayaguez	24	28	.462	6½
Arecibo	21	28	.429	8

Montague Gets Dominican Loop 'Welcome'

By ROOSEVELT COMARAZAMY

SANTO DOMINGO, D. R.—Right-hander John Montague (Orioles), who'd pitched winter ball earlier this season in the Venezuelan League, made his debut as a starter for Estrellas against Escogido December 12 at San Pedro de Macoris—and probably wished he was back in Caracas.

Montague was greeted thusly in the first inning by the Lions: John Donaldson doubled, Mario Guerrero singled, Matty Alou singled, Greg Schubert singled, Fernando Tatis flied out to the warning track and Jay de las Rosa singled.

John got off the hook, however, when the Orientales rallied to take

Dominican League

(Standing Sunday a.m., Dec. 19)

Club	W.	L.	Pct.	GB.
Estrellas	23	17	.575	...
Aguilas	22	19	.537	1½
Licey	19	22	.463	4½
Escogido	18	24	.429	6

a 5-4 lead in the sixth inning while reliever Dave Hernandez (Spokane) was holding Escogido at bay. But Hernandez weakened in the seventh and Fred Velazquez (Richmond) singled to drive in the run which made 6-5 winners of the Lions.

Flanagan Flies High

A couple of other hurlers down here were having better luck than Montague. Mike Flanagan (Oklahoma City) posted his seventh victory December 8 when he hurled Escogido past Estrellas, 4-2.

The next night, Harry Parker (Mets) coasted to his fourth straight victory in a Licey uniform, 10-1 over Escogido. Parker scattered three singles.

And relief specialist Gene Garber (Pirates) claimed his eighth victory for Aguilas, 7-6 over Escogido on December 10. Garber was the first to reach that plateau here this winter.

Dominican Doings: What Garber has been to Aguilas, Ray Miller (Rochester) has been to Estrellas.

He'd already appeared in 20 games for the Orientales, and had been piling some interesting statistics, the type which don't show up in pitching summaries. In those 20 appearances, Ray had allowed the first batter he faced to reach base 16 times, nine of them via hits, four on walks and three on errors. Of the four first batters Miller had retired, two of them had executed sacrifice bunts successfully.

Estrellas released shortstop Lee Richard (White Sox), who left with a .179 average. Bobby Fenwick (Astros) was signed as a replacement. The Orientales also dropped pitcher Larry Crossan (Indians), who had a 1-3 record. . . . Escogido's Jay Alou returned from Houston with word that Astro doctors don't think knee surgery will be necessary. He may be able to play by late December.

Estrellas put an end to the league's longest winning streak (five games) with a 14-hit attack December 9 while downing Aguilas, 5-3. Ralph Garr (Braves) had three hits and

D. R. Data

LEADING BATTERS

Player—Club	AB.	H.	HR.	RBI.	Pct.
Kurt Bevacqua, Licey	131	53	4	29	.405
Ralph Garr, Estrellas	130	54	0	11	.391
Charlie Sands, Aguilas	106	38	10	30	.358
Adrian Garrett, Aguilas	138	44	6	28	.319
Manny Mota, Licey	125	39	1	12	.312
Pedro Gonzalez, Est.	88	27	0	7	.307
Rafael Batista, Est.	134	41	2	17	.306
Ted Martinez, Licey	134	41	1	14	.306
Mickey Rivers, Licey	118	36	0	6	.305
Matty Alou, Escogido	112	34	1	9	.304

LEADING PITCHERS

Pitcher—Club	IP.	SO.	W.	L.	ERA.
Mike Flanagan, Escog.	80	39	7	1	1.69
Pedro Borbon, Licey	69	34	3	4	1.96
Gerald Pirtle, Escogido	49	30	3	1	2.02
Oscar Zamora, Esc.	38	22	1	3	2.39
Dick Tidrow, Estrellas	69	40	4	1	2.48
Tony Barrientos, Licey	55	22	4	1	2.89
Gene Garber, Aguilas	75	37	8	2	3.24
Jack Andujar, Escogido	53	25	2	3	3.39
Dan Jaster, Estrellas	48	30	3	3	3.39
Elias Sosa, Escogido	33	28	0	3	3.55

scored three runs for the Orientales. . . . Licey's Kurt Bevacqua (Indians) and Aguilas' Charlie Sands (Pirates) were waging a real battle for the RBI leadership—while zeroing in on other offensive titles. Bevacqua's .405 average was setting the pace for hitters, and Sands already had collected 10 home runs.

Venezuelan Clubs Juggle Hot Potato

By EDUARDO MONCADA

CARACAS, Ven.—First place in the Venezuela League this winter is a hot potato, an item passed from club to club and never held very long. Club owners are not unhappy, though, because the race has been very good for attendance.

At this writing, Magallanes was holding the potato—by one length over Aragua and only 4½ games ahead of last-place Lara.

The combination of a Navigator victory over Lara December 12 and a Caracas defeat at the hands of Zulia the same night first put Magallanes in the top spot, after Caracas had claimed it briefly the previous night when the Lions belted the Navigators, 13-1. Mike Torrez (Expos) had an easy time in that one. One of the league's earned-run average leaders, Torrez got 19-hit backing from his teammates, who scored four times in the first inning.

Burbach Loses Eighth

But Zulia's Bill Kirkpatrick (Orioles) shut off the Lions the following evening, 5-2, at Maracaibo, while at Valencia Magallanes was pounding Lara, 8-4, and pinning hard-luck Bill Burbach (Rochester) with his eighth defeat in nine decisions. Burbach lasted two-thirds of an inning, gave up three hits, walked three and was charged with five runs.

The Navigators' tenuous hold on first place was entrusted to Jorge Lauzerique (Portland), loser in each of his first four decisions, on December 13, and Lauzerique rose to the occasion by tossing a three-hitter at Zulia and blanking the Indians, 3-0.

Venezuela Vitamins: Outfielder Rich Chiles (Astros), who was fined when he failed to honor his contract with Magallanes and left the

country, was further chastised when he was suspended from winter league play for a period of three years. . . . Righthander Pete Hamm collected three hits and scored two runs in addition to pitching the Navigators to a 6-1 decision over La Guaira December 7. Orlando Reyez (Poza Rica) accounted for the decisive runs with a two-run homer in the fourth inning.

Joe Lis, the Phillies' promising power boy, cracked two home runs for Caracas December 10, the first tying the score in the second inning, the second with a runner aboard in the fifth giving the Lions a 7-6 nod

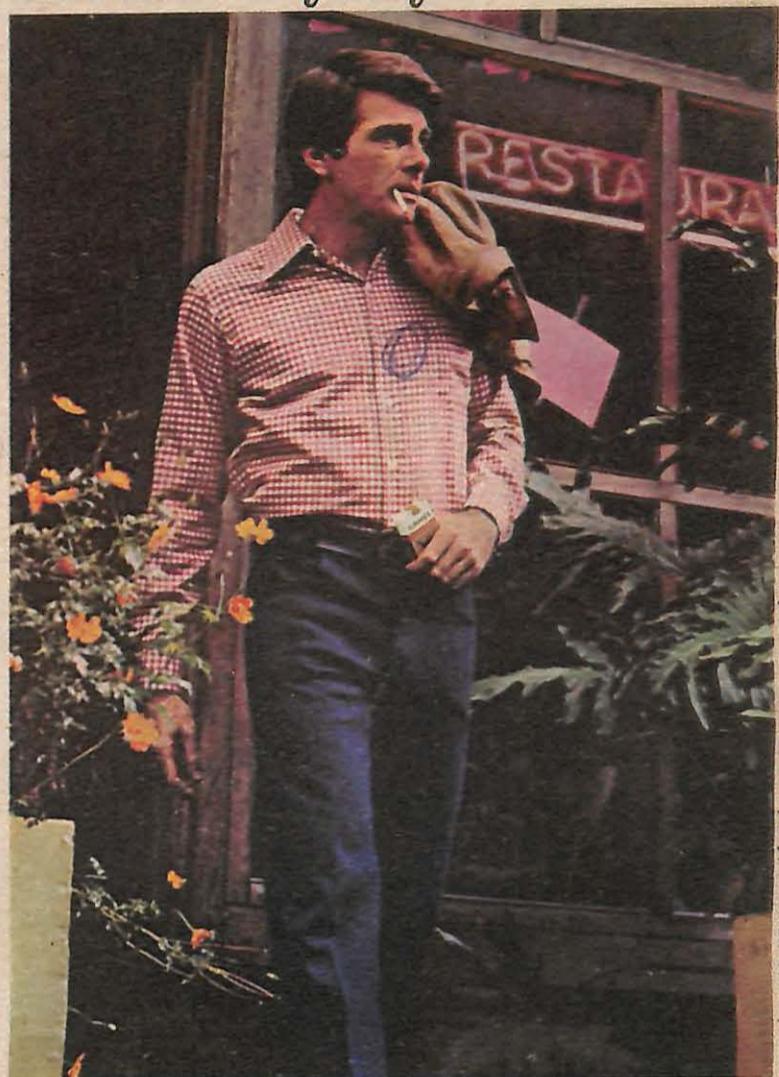
over Zulia. . . . John Jeter's (Padres) fifth homer of the season pulled Lara even with Aragua December 9, and the Cardinals won it, 3-2, on Enos Cabell's (Orioles) two-out double and a single by Keith Lampard (Expos). . . . Barry Raziano (Tidewater) continued as Lara's best performer on the mound, hanging up his eighth victory against a single defeat December 10 when he decisioned Aragua, 3-2. Raziano held the Tigers hitless until the fifth inning, then allowed four singles in the final four frames.

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Would It Still Be N.Y. Without Yankee Stadium?

By BOB WATERS

NEW YORK, N.Y.—In 1939, while he was dying, Lou Gehrig stood at home plate in Yankee Stadium and called himself "the luckiest man on the face of the earth."

It's a memory.

More than 60,000 fans wept in some way at Yankee Stadium that day. And a man wrote, "Even the flag stopped fluttering. At that moment it laid still against the pole that supported it, still and sad."

Yankee Stadium, of course, is rich in memories—the baseball dynasty that was; the heavyweight fights; the incredible football eras; the crowds that adored Babe Ruth, filled themselves with pride over Joe DiMaggio, and went hoarse yelling good-bye to Mickey Mantle.

The other day a lot of people went to City Hall to ask that the memories be preserved.

Mel Allen, one-time "Voice of the Yankees," said he

thought of Yankee Stadium "as a monument; like the Statue of Liberty." Allen said he thought of Yankee Stadium as "a true landmark, not only in the city but in the nation."

Allen was one of the group who appeared before the Board of Estimate to urge that the city buy the stadium

(Continued on Page 46, Column 2)